Nelson, New Hampshire

Class F44

Book .N4N4

PRESENTED BY

CELEBRATION

OF THE

One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary

OF THE

First Settlement

OF

Nelson, New Hampshire

1767-1917

CELEBRATION BY THE TOWN OF

Nelson, New Hampshire

(ORIGINALLY CALLED "MONADNOCK No. 6" AND INCORPORATED AS "PACKERSFIELD")

OF THE

One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of its First Settlement

1767-1917

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE

NELSON PICNIC ASSOCIATION

AT THEIR THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL GATHERING

AUGUST 15, 1917

SKETCH OF THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE TOWN

BY MAJOR-GENERAL SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN

A NATIVE THEREOF

TO WHICH IS ADDED THE

Names and Records

of the Pioneer Settlers of Packersfield, who had part in the War of the Revolution

1775-1783

AND

PROGRAM OF ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES

INCLUDING THE DEDICATION OF A

MEMORIAL TABLET

F4
.N4N4

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

of the

NELSON, N. H., PICNIC ASSOCIATION

1917

PRESIDENT.....Rev. George L. Cady, D. D.
VICE-PRESIDENT.....Rev. Roderick Stebbins
SECRETARY.....Rev Millard F. Hardy

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Arthur Flood
Mr. Albertis W. Wilder
Mr. Wayland P. Tolman

COMMITTEE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN
1767-1917

Hon. and Mrs. T. W. Barker
Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Bassett
Mr. Charles A. Bemis
Dr. and Mrs. George L. Cady
Rev. and Mrs. W. O. Conrad
Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Dunn
Dr. and Mrs. Seneca Egbert
Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Elder
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Elliot
Mr. and Mrs. Oren L. Farwell
Mrs. Sumner P. Fisher
Mr. Fred A. Fisher
Miss Helen B. Fletcher
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Flood
Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Gibson
Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Griffin
Mr. and Mrs. Harry R. Green
Dr. and Mrs. E. N. Hardy
Rev. and Mrs. M. F. Hardy
Miss H. Jennie Holt
Dr. and Mrs. T. M. Lightfoot
Mr. Henry Melville,
Chairman
Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Murdough
Mrs. Delia H. Osgood,
Secretary
Miss Edith H. Osgood
Miss Sarah E. Osgood
Mr. and Mrs. George S. Page
Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Priest
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Ruffle
Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Scott
Rev. and Mrs. Roderick Stebbins
Mr. and Mrs. John Stevens
Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Struthers
Mr. Wellington Stoddard
Mrs. Hattie Towne
Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Tolman
Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer C. Tolman
Mr. and Mrs. Horace O. Upton
Mr. and Mrs. Albertis W. Wilder
Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Wilson

SELECTMEN OF NELSON

Mr. Thaddeus W. Barker
Mr. Wilmer C. Tolman
Mr. Fred. M. Murdough

Left
Henry Melville
Ja. 2 '18

THE MINUTE MAN

By Daniel Chester French

FORMING PART OF THE MONUMENT AT CONCORD BRIDGE

"What heroes from the woodland sprung,
When, through the fresh-awakened land,
The thrilling cry of freedom rung
And to the work of warfare strung
The yeoman's iron hand!

Hills flung the cry to hills around,
And ocean-mart replied to mart,
And streams, whose springs were yet unfound,
Pealed far away the startling sound
Into the forest's heart.

Then marched the brave from rocky steep,
From mountain-river swift and cold;
The borders of the stormy deep,
The vales where gathered waters sleep,
Sent up the strong and bold,—

As if the very earth again
Grew quick with God's creating breath,
And from the sods of grove and glen
Rose ranks of lion-hearted men
To battle to the death."

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT

NELSON

"Within the bounds of Cheshire,
New Hampshire's County pride,
And where the hills range nobly,
To form the great divide,
She sits in quiet grandeur,
A Queen with honor crowned,
Whose every hill 's a temple,
And valley hallowed ground."

M. F. HARDY

SKETCH OF THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF NELSON,[1] *New Hampshire.*

BY S. G. GRIFFIN.[2]

On the 6th day of December, 1751, the Proprietors of the lands purchased of John Tufton Mason, Esq., who claimed to be a descendant of Capt. John Mason, the original grantee of the lands in the Province of New Hampshire, held a meeting at Portsmouth, at which it was "*Voted*, That Joseph Blanchard, Esq., be authorized and empowered, in behalf of said Proprietors, to agree with any number of persons to make settlements on said lands, upon such conditions as he should judge proper"; and to make "such grants of lands for Townships as he should deem most convenient for making good settlements, for the public good, and for the benefit of the Proprietors".

Agreeably to the power and authority thus conferred, Joseph Blanchard conveyed by grant, "all the Right, Title, Property and Possession" of the said Proprietors in that tract or township of land called Monadnock No. 6,—excepting twenty shares, three of which were reserved for public use, and seventeen for the benefit of the original Proprietors, or Grantors—to John Hutchinson, Alexander Park, Benjamin French, Eleazar Farwell, Robert Fletcher, James Minot, and thirty others, one hundred and twenty shares, each share containing two "lots". These shareholders were called Grantees, and afterwards Proprietors.

Of the three shares set apart for public use, one was "reserved for the first settled minister, one for the ministry, and one for public schools, forever".

The shares were to be drawn by lot on or before the last day of November, 1754, and the township was laid out eight miles in length, east and west, and five miles in width, north and south, containing 25,600 acres of land. The town lines established at that time, on the north, south and east, were the same as they now exist,[1a] but the north and south lines extended west to the line known as the "Patent line", which was the eastern boundary of Keene, (then called Upper Ashuelot) and which may still be traced as the east line of Gilsum and Marlow, and at other points in the State. That line ran south ten degrees west, and included in this town the farms in Sullivan formerly

[1]Originally rectangular in shape, five miles North and South by eight miles East and West, and called "Monadnock No. 6." February 22, 1774, it was incorporated with the name "Packersfield." September 27, 1787, about one-eighth of it was taken to form a part of the town of Sullivan; December 9, 1812, another portion went to form a part of Roxbury, and finally, July 2, 1870, a third portion to form a part of Harrisville. The name was changed from Packersfield to Nelson, October 1, 1814.—*Eds.*

[2]Major-General Simon Goodell Griffin was born in Nelson, August 9, 1824. Samuel Griffin, Nehemiah Wright and Rev. Jacob Foster, whose services in the Revolution are hereafter noted, were three of his grandfathers.

This sketch was written by him soon after the close of the Civil War, and was printed in 1870 and 1871 in two issues of the *Nelson Clarion*, a little paper published to raise money to repair the church. In considering his references to persons and places it must be borne in mind that he refers to a time about fifty years ago.—*Eds.*

[1a]In 1835 a small piece, including the "old Tarbox place", was taken from Stoddard and added to Nelson.

owned by Selim Frost and Amos Wardwell, and those in Roxbury now owned and occupied by David W. Buckminster[3] and Gilman Nims,[4] crossing the "Branch" at the edge of the woods, about half a mile below what is now known as Roxbury Bridge.

This grant was dated the tenth day of May, 1752, and signed by Joseph Blanchard, agent for the Grantors. By the conditions of this grant, each owner of a double share, or two lots, was to have, within three years from the last day of the following November, at least three acres of his parcel cleared and fitted for mowing or tillage, and three acres cleared annually for the same purpose for three years next following, and was to have, within the same time, a dwelling house built, and comfortably finished, and a family dwelling on the premises. These conditions were not fulfilled to the letter, but enough was done to satisfy the Grantors.

Another condition was, that a convenient Meeting-house should be erected near the centre of said township within ten years, and ten acres of land reserved for public use; and another, that all lands should be subject to have all necessary roads laid out through them, without any pay or allowance for damage thereby. "All white pine trees fit for His Majesty's Royal Navy", were granted to the King and his successors, forever.[5]

The shares thus granted were frequently bought and sold on speculation, sometimes at a very low price, so that, a few years afterwards, we find men whose names do not appear among the Grantees owning a large number of the original shares. Among these was Col. Thomas Packer, of Portsmouth, who must have owned, at one time, according to the Deeds given out by him, more than one-half the land in town.

On the 6th of October, 1761, a meeting of the Grantees was held at the house of Robert McClandenen, in Londonderry, N. H., at which Thomas Packer was chosen Moderator, and Thomas Packer, Jr., Clerk of the Proprietors. At this meeting it was voted, among other things, that the township be divided into quarters, by lines running through the centre, that the quarters be numbered, and that ten acres be laid out near the centre of the town for the purpose of building a Meeting-house, and for other public uses.

On the 19th of October, 1763, Breed Batchelder, then of Brookfield, Mass., received a Deed from Jonathan Blanchard, of Dunstable, N. H., of 2,135 acres of land in the south-west quarter of the town then called Monadnock No. 6. The consideration named in the Deed was sixty pounds sterling, and the Deed was recorded in N. H. Records, May, 1765.

Mr. Batchelder afterwards became the first permanent settler in the town, and his homestead was the place now owned and occupied by Gilman Nims,[6] of Roxbury, which was a part of this tract of land purchased of Blanchard.

He was born in Beverly, Mass., in 1740. His father, John Batchelder, afterwards removed to Brookfield, where he died, leaving considerable prop-

---

[3]Now owned by Mr. Elbridge Kingsbury and occupied by a girl's summer camp.

[4]Now owned by heirs of David Nims.

[5]Under date of July 9, 1750, Richard Hazzen made for the Masonian Proprietors a plan of the tract afterwards called Monadnock No. 6, in which it was divided into rectangular lots with parallel and perfectly straight highways, running east and west and north and south, so that every lot bordered on at least one of them. It also indicated the character of the timber on each lot. Very little white pine was shown, much less than exists at the present day. Most of the soft wood was hemlock. The central lot, described as "Meeting House Place," was covered with "red oak." See N. H. State Papers, Vol. 28, page 7.—*Eds.*

[6]Now owned by heirs of David Nims.

erty, and by administration papers it appears that Breed settled his estate about the year 1763.

In 1758, at the age of eighteen, young Batchelder was in the army under General Abercrombie, in the expedition against Ticonderoga, where he kept a journal, which is still preserved.

Possessed of a great deal of energy of character and perseverance, and having served in the army and had some intercourse with the world, he acquired an education superior to that generally obtained by the young men of his time. In 1762, we find him a surveyor of land, as appears by his minutes, which testify to the intelligence and capacity of the young pioneer.

In 1764, he appears by deeds to have been a resident of Keene, and by tradition of his descendants we learn that he came to Nims's, in Keene,—nearest settler to his land—(where Brigham Nims[7] now lives, in Roxbury) and boarded for a time while he was clearing his land and preparing a home on his own premises.

FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN—1766.

On the 11th day of March, 1766, Breed Batchelder married Ruth Davis, of Rutland, Mass., and was published as belonging to Keene at that time. The same year, he built a large and heavily-timbered barn on his homestead, which is still standing, and was, without doubt, the first framed barn built in town.

A house had previously been built on the place, on the opposite side of the road from that now occupied by Gilman Nims (where his sugar-house now stands); and there is a tradition in the neighborhood that another man had been on Batchelder's place and built a cabin, and that he suddenly disappeared, leaving all his effects, which were taken possession of by Batchelder, except one hammer, the iron handle of which is still in the possession of Brigham Nims, of Roxbury, with whose ancestors it was left.

Many of Mr. Batchelder's papers have been preserved, and among them is found the indenture by which, on the 27th of June, 1767, "Josiah Billings, of Monadnock No. 6" bound out his son, Ebenezer Billings, as an apprentice to "Breed Batchelder, gentleman".

By the town records, it appears that Batchelder was afterwards paid for labor on the highway in June, 1767, and from the record of births, we find that his daughter, Betsy Batchelder, was born in this town on the 24th of August, 1767, and was the first child born in town.

On the 25th of March, in the same year, a meeting of the Proprietors of Monadnock No. 6 was held at the house of Zachariah Foss, in Portsmouth—Thomas Packer, Esq., Moderator—and was adjourned from time to time. On the 1st of September, it was voted to raise a tax of fifty shillings on each share, to defray the expense of surveying and laying out the lots of land, and for building necessary highways and bridges. Breed Batchelder was appointed collector of this tax, and he and his brother William were chosen a committee to lay out highways.

On the 30th of September, same year, a meeting of the Grantors—the original purchasers from Mason—was held at Portsmouth and the failure of

[7]Now owned by heirs of David Nims.

the grantees to fulfill the conditions of the grant was discussed; but in "Consideration that they had already done much towards a settlement of the said township", it was voted that their rights be still preserved to them, and that the time of their limitation be extended.

The Gazetteers state that the town was first settled in 1767; but, from the facts and circumstances above stated, it is altogether probable that Batchelder settled in 1766, and others came about the same time. Those who appear to have been here in 1767, were Josiah Billings, who lived near Batchelder, Joseph Stanhope (a half-breed Indian), and Abraham Griffiths, who lived in the northeast quarter, Dr. Nathaniel Breed, who settled where Horatio and John Osgood now live,[8] Abijah Brown, who lived where the old orchard is, above the lead mine, east of Mr. Osgood's, and James Bancroft, who settled in the south part of the town, on the hill north of the late homestead of Joel Bancroft.

Dr. Breed was probably the first permanent settler within the present limits of the town. He was a regularly educated physician,—had practised medicine in Eastham, on Capt Cod, and afterwards at Sudbury, Mass., from which place he came to this town. He brought his family here in 1768, and soon after removed to the south part of the town, to the place now owned and occupied by Wellington Seaver. He built a mill directly east of the house—one of the first in town—and from him "Breed Pond" derived its name.

SURVEY OF THE TOWN—1768.

In the months of September and October, 1768, Breed Batchelder, assisted by his brother William, Dr. Nathaniel Breed, and others, surveyed the town, and presented a plan, on parchment, to the "Proprietors", by whose agent he had been employed, and a copy to the Grantors. He retained a copy himself, also on parchment, which is still in the possession of his descendants. On the plan is a statement of the survey, sworn to before a Justice of the Peace, dated December 7th, 1768.

The town was laid out in lots of 104 acres each, 160 rods long, north and south, and 104 rods wide, east and west. Lines were first drawn through the centre, dividing the township into quarters, and each quarter was allotted by itself, the ranges running east and west, and numbered from left to right, and the numbers of the lots in the ranges running north and south. The lots were not fixed at such a size as to divide the whole number of acres in the town without remainder. Consequently there were strips of land left in each quarter, after laying out the regular lots, and the lines of lots did not correspond with those in the adjoining quarters.

A MAN LOST.

While Batchelder and his party were surveying the town, one of the men, named Samuel Maguire, a native of Ireland, became separated from the others, and was lost. They were in the east part of the town, on or near the "Island", one Saturday afternoon, and being about to quit work, Maguire took a tin kettle, or pail, to go to a spring for water, at the same time taking his gun, saying he would see if he could get a duck for supper,—the spring being near

[8] Now owned by Mr. Charles H. Osgood.

the pond. They heard him fire his gun, and waited some time for him to return. Night was coming on, and they were several miles from their homes—some of them living in Keene—with no roads through the wilderness, not even marked trees, much of the way. They commenced to search, but were compelled to give it up and seek their homes before it should be too dark. The next day they raised a large party in Keene and renewed the search. Fires were built on the hills, horns sounded, guns fired, and everything done that could be to rescue him, but he was never heard of afterward. Many years afterwards, when the farm lately owned by Mr. Comstock, in Sullivan, came to be settled, there were found, near a large rock, where there had evidently been a fire, a gun barrel, from which the stock had rotted, a pair of saddle-bags, a compass-box and a horn of powder. Buttons, also, such as were worn on coats and breeches in those days, were scattered about, but no bones were found, and whether Maguire or any one else had perished there was never known.

On the 2d of September, same year, Mr. Batchelder received a Deed from Thomas Packer, senior, of the whole of the northeast quarter of the township, except one lot of 104 acres. From this large tract of more than 6,000 acres he sold farms to settlers, from time to time (some were already in possession, but had not taken deeds) until, at the time he left the country, in 1777, it was reduced to 3,516 acres in that quarter. At about the same time, he bought the original shares of James Miller, one of the grantees, comprising four lots,—416 acres—covering the farms now owned by Prentiss Stoddard,[9] N. W. Hardy,[10] and the one lately owned by Joseph Beal, as they were originally allotted. He also owned, about this time, the original lot now included in the homestead of Josiah Melville, and commenced at one time to clear the land on that place.

On the 16th of January, 1769, a meeting of the Proprietors was held at the house of Zachariah Foss, in Portsmouth, Thomas Packer, Moderator, at which it was "*Voted* to accept the plan of the township presented by Mr. Breed Batchelder, and that the same be filed with the Grantee's Clerk".

During that year Mr. Batchelder surveyed the town of Stoddard,—Monadnock No. 7—the minutes of which are still preserved among his papers.

From the record of births in the town books, it appears that Abigail Breed, daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Breed, was born on the 16th of June of that year, and was the first person baptized in town. The ceremony was performed in October following by Rev. Stephen Farrar, of New Ipswich.

On the 8th of June, 1770, Thomas Packer Batchelder, son of Breed Batchelder, was born, and was presented with a lot of land by Thomas Packer for being the first male child born in town, and also with another lot for receiving the name of the donor.

As early as 1771 several families had taken up their residence within the township, in addition to those already mentioned. Samuel Cook, Beriah Wetmore, Thomas Upham, and John Stroud had settled in the eastern and northeastern part, John Farwell where Darius Farwell[11] now lives, Richard Farwell on the James Derby place,[12] and John Frink, John LeBourveau and John

[9]Now occupied by Mr. Wellington Stoddard.
[10]Now occupied by Dr. E. N. Hardy.
[11]Now owned by Mr. Arthur E. Childs.
[12]Now occupied by Mr. Oren L. Farwell.

Proutee, and probably several others, were somewhere in town, but the particular location of each is not known.

FIRST TOWN MEETING.

On the 5th of February, 1772, a meeting of the Proprietors of Monadnock No. 6 was held at the house of "Ensign Breed Batchelder, Innholder in said town", and was the first town meeting held in town. The meeting had been legally called by Thomas Frink, Esq., of Keene, a Justice of the Peace, upon a petition signed by Breed Batchelder, John Frink and Nathaniel Breed, and the warrant was published three weeks in the N. H. *Gazette,* in January, 1772.

Thomas Frink was chosen Moderator. A vote was passed dismissing the Proprietors' Clerk—Thomas Packer, Jr.,—and Breed Batchelder was chosen in his place.

Breed Batchelder's account for surveying the town and making the plans, amounting to thirty-two pounds nine shillings, was accepted and allowed.

Breed Batchelder, Abijah Brown and Thomas Upham were chosen a committee to settle the town lines with all the towns adjoining.

A tax of six shillings on each settling share was raised for defraying Proprietors' charges, and twelve shillings for the use of highways. Abijah Brown was chosen collector.

It was also voted to clear four acres of the ten acres reserved for public use, and build a "Duty Meeting-house".

On the 21st of April another meeting was held at the same place, at which John LeBourveau was chosen Moderator, and Nathaniel Breed, Breed Batchelder and John LeBourveau, Assessors.

Breed Batchelder was chosen Highway Surveyor for the west half of the town, Beriah Wetmore for the southeast quarter, and John Proutee for the northeast quarter.

BUILDING OF THE FIRST MEETING HOUSE, 1772.

At this meeting it was voted to build a meeting house thirty feet long by twenty-five feet wide—the posts to be eight and a half feet high—and twenty-five pounds sterling was voted for that purpose.

Breed Batchelder, Nath'l Breed and John Proutee were chosen a committee to build the house, "or let it out by the great", as they might think proper. Ten pounds sterling was raised for clearing the four acres on the public lot.

During the summer of that year the four acres on the public lot were cleared, and in the autumn the meeting house was raised, but was not finished till the next year.

It stood on, or very near, the spot afterwards occupied by the large meeting-house, facing the east. Its dimensions were as above described, and it had nine windows, two in front, one each side of the entrance, two in each end, one in the rear, over the pulpit, which was opposite the entrance, and one in each gable. A beam ran through the centre, over the door and pulpit, which served the double purpose of holding the plates of the building from spreading, and dividing the male from the female worshippers. The house was completed in June, 1773, and there the Rev. Mr. Treadway—the first minister—dispensed the gospel with puritanical rigor, and there the people

came from far and near to listen, bringing their Sunday dinners with them. Richard Farwell used to bring a pot of baked beans, slung on a pole, and invite everybody to join him in his feast.[13]

That was their only place of worship for many years, until a larger house was needed and finally built.[14] Then the old one was moved south some forty or fifty rods to the hollow near the branch of the roads, where it was fitted up and used as a store, a rum-shop and a tavern, and was afterward changed into a dwelling-house, in which the Rev. Gad Newell and others resided. Still later its timbers were used in the construction of the cabinet maker's shop—all of them except the sills—which was built at the branch of the roads, at the south end of the old "Common." Finally the shop was removed to the "Village" some thirty years ago, and a few years later was remodelled into the dwelling-house lately occupied by Asa Taft, now by Mr. Waldron,[15] where the original timbers of the first old meeting-house still exist, as sound, probably, as when they were first raised in 1772.

At an adjourned meeting of the Proprietors held on the 21st of September, 1772, it was voted, among other things, to allow the account of Breed Batchelder, for labor on the highways in said township from June, 1767, to January, 1772. The accounts also of James Bancroft and Samuel Cook were allowed for labor on the highway in 1771. It was also voted that the Grantees, or those holding under them, might work out their highway tax, and that three shillings per day be allowed each man from May 1st to October 1st and two shillings six-pence for the rest of the year. Two shillings were allowed for a pair of oxen, one shilling six-pence for a plow, and one shilling for a cart.

FIRST MARRIAGE IN TOWN.

On the 28th of October, 1772, Abijah Brown and Deliverance Breed, eldest daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Breed, were married by Rev. Joseph Farrar, of Dublin, and were the first couple married in town. Mr. Brown was a prominent man among the early settlers, was often employed in town business, and was, afterward, Lieutenant of Militia, and commander of the company of twenty-seven men who marched from this town on the second morning after the battle of Lexington, to fight the British at Bunker Hill. The bride was seventeen years of age.

On the 29th of March, 1773, a meeting of the Proprietors was held at the house of Dr. Nath'l Breed, Dr. Breed Moderator, at which it was voted to raise nine shillings, lawful money, on each settling share, to defray the expense of getting the town incorporated, and for Proprietors' charges, and half a farthing per acre for the purpose of hiring some person to preach the Gospel. Breed Batchelder and Nath'l Breed were chosen a committee to hire such person, and they hired, temporarily, the Rev. Mr. Tread-

[13]It probably was not used much in the winter time. At a town meeting held December 4, 1780, it was voted that the preaching each month be distributed as follows: one Sabbath at the house of Lieutenant Adams, one Sabbath at Samuel Griffin's, and two Sabbaths at Dr. Breed's.

[14]The "New" meeting house was begun in 1786 and finished four or five years later. It was occupied until the present structure was built at the foot of the hill in 1841. In 1846, it was shorn of its porches, the frame made one-third smaller, and reconstructed into the present Town Hall. The porches were formed into the house last occupied by Mrs. Bryant, now owned by Mrs. Stillman.

[15]Now by Mr. L. H. Bassett.

way, who commenced his labors that year—probably in June—but no church was organized until several years later. It was also voted to petition the Governor and Council to have the town incorporated, and Breed Batchelder was chosen agent to procure said act of incorporation.

On the 1st day of July following, a meeting of the Proprietors was held at the meeting-house for the first time, Beriah Wetmore moderator, and on the 18th of October another meeting was held at the same place, John LeBourveau moderator at which it was voted to "settle a Gospel minister," and to renew the petition to the Governor and Council for an act of incorporation. Breed Batchelder was re-appointed agent to defend the same, a remonstrance having been sent in by some who were opposed to the measure. In the warrant for this meeting is an article "To see if the Proprietors will vote to give the Rev. Mr. Treadway, now preaching with them, a call to settle in the work of the ministry."

INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN—1774.

On the 22d of February, 1774, John Wentworth, Governor of the Province of New Hampshire, in the name of "George the Third, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith" &c., signed the Act of Incorporation, giving the town the name of Packersfield, in honor of Col. Thomas Packer, who, at one time, owned the greater part of the township. The whole of the northwest quarter was owned by him at this time, and it was called "Packer's quarter" until within a few years.

He promised to give the town five hundred acres of land if they would name it Packersfield but after securing the name he refused to give the deed. The inhabitants were indignant and immediately commenced an agitation to change the name, in which they were successful many years afterward.[16]

The first meeting under the charter was held at the meeting-house on the 31st day of March, 1774, and the corporation was duly organized by the election of a full complement of town officers. Breed Batchelder was chosen moderator, John LeBourveau town clerk, and Joseph Stanhope, John LeBourveau and Eleazar Twitchell selectmen and assessors.

Several families had now come into town in addition to those already named.

In 1772 William Follett had come from Hubbardston, Mass., and settled on the place lately owned by Daniel M. Burpee, now by Edwin Hunt,[17] and Samuel Wilson and Jonathan Nichols had built their cabins in the northeast quarter, Bruce was on "Prospect Hill," afterwards called "City Hill," Eleazar Twitchell had settled on the place since known as the "Capt. Scripture place,"[18] John Adams on the "Seaver place," Aaron Beal, afterwards called "Leftenant Beal," on the one lately owned by James Chase, and his brother William, had a grist mill at the outlet of "Pleasant Pond," since called Breed Pond. Philip Bailash was living on the knoll north of "Duck

[16]In 1777 an attempt was made to change the name to Sullivan in honor of the New Hampshire General of that name. See N. H. State Papers, Vol. 12, page 637. The present town of Sullivan, which includes part of Packersfield, was incorporated in 1787. Probably the land set off from the latter place contained no inhabitants.

At a town meeting held March 13, 1783, it was "voted: to have the town of Packersfield be called Groton. By 35 votes; none in the negative."—*Eds.*

[17]Now by Mr. Temple Scott.

[18]Now known as the Clymer Place.

Pond"—now called Mud Pond—between the roads, where a few apple trees still stand, John Scarlet Newhall on the hill southeast of Darius Farwell's, John Spinney on John Yeardley's place, Phineas Stanford a little to the east of him, Joseph Stanford where Chauncey Barker lives, Samuel Everett where the little orchard is, under the hill east of the "Poland place," Amos Skinner near him, James Grover on the "Bryant place"—in the old orchard west of where Allen Tolman[19] now lives—and Sylvanus Morse southwest of him. James French, Moses Adams, Johnson Proutee, Elihu Higbee and Ephraim Pierce were all residents of the town.

In 1773, James Phillips was living in the west part, Joseph Mason in the south, and Joseph Eayrs somewhere within the limits of the town.

ANECDOTES OF EARLY SETTLERS.

There are many interesting facts and incidents relating to the trials and privations of the early settlers, some of which it may be worth while to record. The whole country was covered with a dense forest, there were no roads or paths through the wilderness except to go by marked trees, and in some cases the nearest neighbor was miles away.

Very few settlements had been made in the adjoining towns, and in some of them none at all. Their supply of food, even, was precarious, for there were no grist-mills at hand, and some of the earlier settlers had to go as far as Peterboro' and Wilton, and sometimes even to Northfield or Concord, Mass., to mill, or to buy grain to eat. They often lived almost wholly upon boiled rye, and if their crops of corn or grain failed, they were reduced at times to hunting and fishing, but even in that case, although game was tolerably plenty, it was often difficult to keep up the necessary supply of powder and lead.

It is true they never were annoyed by Indians, the French and Indian war having drawn off the savages from this section of country. Indeed, it is probable that this rough and hilly country never was inhabited by them to any great extent, but was left for a hunting ground by those whose wigwams were along the banks of the great rivers.

An Indian grave or two on the farm lately owned by Samuel and Orlando Osgood,[20] and two or three on the east side of "Hurd Hill," north of Amos Sheldon's, with traces of a few wigwams, and an arrow-head, formed of a kind of flint rock, different from anything found in this region, discovered by Joel Bancroft near the outlet of the "great meadows," are all the relics of Indians, so far as we know, that have been found in town.

Moose and deer were plenty, and the dams and huts of beaver were found along many of the streams.

Bears, wolves, and wild-cats, made it dangerous for the animals of the settlers, if not for themselves, and the wolves often kept up such a howling as to make the night hideous, and prevent all sleep in their vicinity. Bears would often come to the dwellings of the settlers and attack and kill their hogs, and John Farwell had a cow killed in the woods by bears or wolves. John White killed thirteen bears here in town, although he came as late as

[19] Now owned by Mr. Wayland P. Tolman.
[20] Now owned by Rev. W. O. Conrad.

1781, and wolves made fearful havoc among the sheep many years after the town was first settled.

It was a common practice among the early settlers to save the ashes made while clearing their land, and make "salts," which they exchanged at the stores for such articles as they needed. In fact, they had very little money—frequently none at all—and it was often the case that "salts" was the only article they possessed with which they could buy goods at the stores. They sometimes felled trees and burned them for the purpose of making salts.

At one time many years after the town was first settled, John White and one of his neighbors were clearing on the mountain east of Rye Pond, and while boiling salts one evening after their day's work, they heard a cry on the other side of the pond, like the voice of a woman. They answered, and the voice replied. Believing it to be some one lost in the woods, they started to render assistance, taking their boat, with a torch, and crossing the pond. As they approached the opposite shore the cry seemed to come from the water, and presently a savage animal like a catamount or panther, made at them furiously and raised one paw on the edge of the boat, nearly upsetting it. White said his hair rose on end, but quick as thought he seized the axe which lay in the boat, and lopped off the paw, and it fell into the boat. The animal gave a frightful scream and made off as fast as he could go, while they hurried back to their camp-fires as thoroughly scared as brave men ever allow themselves to be.

The pioneers in these settlements were almost universally men of powerful frames, strong constitutions and wonderful endurance. Many a one of them would chop down his acre of heavy timber in a day, and drink a quart of rum and chew a "hand" of tobacco while doing it.

Their only means of conveyance at first was on the backs of horses, or on their own backs, and they frequently adopted the latter mode of carrying their grain to mill, sometimes going as far as Peterboro' and even Wilton, with a bushel or more of grain to be ground.

Mrs. Batchelder used to go to Rutland, Mass., fifty miles, on horseback to mill.

Nathaniel Barrett's father went to Peterboro' and worked two days for two bushels of rye, got it ground and carried it home on his back, some fifteen miles.

At another time, Mr. Barrett went to Peterboro' and worked to pay for a quarter of beef, which he took on his back to carry home. The wolves, smelling the meat, followed him and threatened a furious attack. To gain time, he threw them piece after piece of the meat, but their number constantly increased, and to save himself he was compelled to throw them the last morsel of his meat.

Even as late as the time when the Rev. Jacob Foster was the minister here—he was settled in 1781—he used to send his son David, a mere lad, three miles to mill, with a peck of rye at a time on his back. One day, after he had been many times, the miller said to him as he approached, "Well, David, don't you get tired of coming to mill with peck after peck in this way?" "Yes," says David, "but through favor it's the last peck."

Abijah Brown, who has already been mentioned as a prominent man among the pioneers, was also a powerful man, physically. At one time, in

the early spring, when the snow was deep and would freeze so as to form a fine crust in the morning, Mr. Brown took a load of salts that he had made during the winter, on a handsled and starting early, drew them down to Keene very easily. With the proceeds of his salts he purchased two large iron kettles weighing eighty pounds each, sixty pounds of salt pork and several other articles, and with them all loaded on his hand sled he started for home. But the sun had shone hot during the middle of the day, and the *crust* was gone. The snow was deep and soft, his load heavy, and his progress slow. He persevered, however, for a while, until finally becoming disgusted, he pitched one of the kettles into the snow at the foot of a marked tree, and left the sled with it. Then taking the other kettle on his head, the sixty pounds of pork under his arm, and the other articles in his hands, he trudged on, reaching home late in the night.

Mr. Brown, when making maple sugar, used to gather sap in five-pail iron kettles, and the kettles made in those days were none of the lightest.

The Farwells and Jonathan Nichols came from Marblehead, and in addition to making salts as the other settlers did, they made oars and handspikes, and carried them to Marblehead during the winter with ox teams. They used to go to Walpole for grain on horseback, also to Northfield, Mass., and frequently, after returning with what a horse could bring, they would have to divide with their neighbors.

When Dr. Breed came to town from Sudbury, Mass., the nearest mill in that direction was at "Old Concord," and when he settled on the Osgood place, his nearest neighbor was Batchelder, in the west part of the town, five miles away, with no path except to go by marked trees.

James Bancroft came from Tyngsboro, Mass., and at first his nearest neighbor was Twitchell of Dublin, three miles away by marked trees. He bought his land of Benjamin French, and paid for the whole of it—four hundred and sixteen acres—with one pair of steers.

All the settlers of those days who had families, came into town bringing all their "traps" and their wives and children on horseback, as there was no other means of conveyance.

The women used to go in the same way to Temple, Mason, Wilton and other distant places to do their "shopping," and to mill, to save their husbands' time, often taking a young child with them.

Aaron Beal used to work out during the day and clear his own land evenings, and his wife used to assist him. He pastured his cows on land that is now Pottersville* in Dublin, that being the nearest place where grass grew, and his wife drove them forth and back through the woods, leaving her little children at home alone. She was a brave woman except as regarded thunder and lightning. In that case she was very timid. One night when it was time for her to go for the cows, the heavens were growing black with an approaching storm. She didn't dare wait till the shower was over or leave the children alone through it, so she took them with her and started. When about half way to the neighbor's who lived by the pasture, a most furious storm overtook them, and the thunder and lightning was more terrific than anything Mrs. Beal had ever experienced. They were thoroughly drenched,

*Now Chesham.

but otherwise unharmed, and it cured Mrs. B. of her timidity on such occasions.

Ichabod Perry, "Ensign" of the military company that afterward marched to Bennington and fought under Stark, lived at the south part of the town, near the Beals'. When the war broke out he went into the army, leaving his wife and seven children at home. In the summer of 1777, the children were taken sick with the dysentery, and while they were sick, Mrs. Perry heard of the death of her husband, who was killed at Brattleboro', Vt., in a skirmish with Tories and Indians, while on the march to Bennington. Six of the children died, and soon after, the same year, her house was burned to the ground.[21]

Peter Chandler lived in the east part of the town, at the end of the road above the "Spoonwood" pond. One evening in June, when Mr. C. was away from home at work, his wife, being alone with her two little children, got the baby to sleep and laid it in the bed, and undressed the older one, a boy two years and two months old, and put him in the trundle bed, and went after her cow. When she returned, the little boy, Moses, was gone. It was thick woods all around, and she searched and called, but could find nothing of him. She then ran to the neighbors and raised help. All turned out and searched, but in vain. The next morning they started again at daylight, and soon discovered the cat coming up from the pond. Following in the direction whence she came, they found the little fellow in a clearing near the pond, with nothing on but his little shirt, up on a pile of logs in such a situation that if he had made a misstep he would have tumbled into the pond. When asked by his mother if he "was not afraid, out there all alone?" "I wasn't alone," he says, "pussy was with me." The cat, no doubt, had been his companion through the night.

Warrants for town meetings were still issued by the constable in the name of "His Majesty the King," and on the 16th of August, 1774, at such a meeting, the town voted to settle Rev. James Treadway permanently in the ministry, and fixed his salary at thirty pounds sterling for the first year, with an increase of five pounds each year until it should amount to sixty pounds—*provided* he supplied the desk all the time.

William Beal, Abijah Brown and Joseph Stanhope were chosen a committee to carry the vote of the town to Mr. Treadway, and conclude arrangements with him. At the next meeting, held on the 3d of September following, it was "voted that Mr. Treadway shall have a good right to leave us destitute of gospel preaching for the space of four sabbaths each year, his salary to be continued."[22]

HIGHWAYS, &C.

Probably the first highway in town laid out and built by authority, was the one leading from Keene to the centre of the town, passing Batchelder's house, as Batchelder was one of a committee in 1767 to lay out highways,

[21]Two men are confused, "Ichabod" Perry, at the age of 15, enlisted from Packersfield in the Continental Army, March 3, 1777. The name of "Ensign" Perry was "Ebenezer." He was the father of Ichabod, First-Lieutenant of Captain Salmon Stone's Company of militia, and was killed at Bennington, August 16, 1777.

[22]Apparently Mr. Treadway did not remain long, and it is doubtful if there was regular preaching until the coming of Rev. Jacob Foster in 1781. Rev. Solomon Reed supplied for a time; and there were others.—*Eds.*

and was paid for work on the highway in that year and those following. But the first of which we have any record is the one described as leading "From Dublin line near Mr. Wood's mill to the meeting-house," and is identical with the old road from the outlet of Breed pond, running by the Derby, Chase and Seaver places to Nelson Centre, excepting that opposite N. W. Hardy's it turned up the hill, and ran directly over the top of the hill northwest of his house, passing down on the other side probably to the west of the buildings on the "Newell place."[23] It was laid out in July, 1773, by Nath'l Breed, and Aaron Beal, Proprietors' Committee. The same committee also laid out, during the same month, another road,—"Bounded as follows, viz. "and begins at a small Beach and stones. East of the Meeting-House at the "East side Line of the Public Land, and then runs southeasterly to a Hemlock "Tree marked—and stands Near the Brook running out of the Centre Line "Meadow to moose meadow—then Crossing said Brook to a small Hemlock, "then to a Large Ditto by a Rocky hole—then to a spruce, then a Beach, to "Beach on the Top of a Pitch—then Birch, then to a Beach at the North "side of the Crotch of the Roads with stones Round it, then Going southerly "in Bancrofts Road to a Large Birch in a hollow, then to a small Beach south "of Skinner's Camp then to a Large Red oak tree, then to a Large maple "then to a small Beach then to Ditto. * * * then to a Large Red oak "southerly of Bancrofts old Barn Near the Brook—the marks are all on the "North and westerly side of the Road, and said Road is Laid Three Rods "wide."

This road will readily be recognized as the one leading from where the old meeting-house stood, by the place where Joseph Beal lately lived,[24] to the Bancroft place, the greater part of which is still in use.

The continuation of this road, south, was laid out the next September by the same committee, and was described as "Beginning at a Large hemlock "at the Brook Running into the Northwesterly side of Brackshin pond so called, "and then runs Northerly to a spruce, then to a Large Black Birch, then to a "small Beach" &c. * * * to a Large Red oak Tree southerly of James "Bancrofts old Barn Near the Brook, it being the Last mentioned Bound "of the Road Laid out from the Meeting House," &c.

"Brackshin pond" is the one since called Twitchell's—now Harrisville pond. The brook running into it, in the above description, is the small one south of Amos Robbins's, and the road was nearly the same as that now in use leading by Amos Robbins's and Chauncey Barker's to the Bancroft place.

Descriptions of others of those old roads might be interesting to many, but the above is sufficient to illustrate the manner of laying out roads in those early times. As for the building of the roads, very little was done to them except to mark the trees, remove those that had fallen across the path, and cut away the brush and lower branches, and it was with difficulty that they could be travelled even on horseback.

It was many years after the town was first settled that wheeled vehicles of any kind were introduced, except ox-carts. A woman desiring to spend an afternoon with a distant neighbor, would mount on horseback, take a child in her arms, and sometimes lash a foot-wheel to the saddle (often a

[23] Now occupied by Mrs. Rebecca Simmons.

[24] On the top of the hill above Mr. John Cowen's.

man's saddle at that) in order to improve the time profitably while enjoying a social chat; for they spun and wove the cloth for all their garments and bed-clothing, and no time must be lost.

Husband and wife would both mount the same horse—sometimes taking each a child—and in that manner journey for business or pleasure.

A lad attending a "junket" would take his lass behind him on the same nag, but she must herself provide the "pillion" on which she rode.

The houses of those days were mere loghuts,[25] with stone chimneys—in some cases with no chimney at all, but a hole in the roof instead—usually with but one room, no chamber or cellar, and sometimes with no floor except the hard-trodden earth.

The roofs were generally made of troughs dug out from large poles and laid side by side lengthwise—up and down—on the roof, then turning others of the same kind the other side up over the joints, the edges fitting into those first laid. If well made, such a roof was impervious to water.

Window-glass was at first unknown, but a hole or two cut in the logs, with wooden shutters, answered the purpose of windows.

Barrels of pork and rum were brought into town in those days on a sort of truck without wheels, made by fastening the buttends of two poles together at the proper distance, and dragging them on the ground, while the top-ends were fastened on either side of the horse-collar. A barrel or two lashed on lengthwise just behind the horse would ride with safety.

BREAKING OUT OF THE WAR, 1775.

In 1774 the people everywhere began to be excited in relation to the treatment of the Colonies by the Mother Country. A few were loyal to the King—generally those who had large property at stake,—but the great mass of the people were inspired with a love of their own country and were determined to stand by it at all hazards. These styled themselves whigs, while the others were called tories.

It was believed by the whigs that war was inevitable, and they began, though without much concert of action, to lay their plans and make preparation for the coming strife.

On the 19th of December in that year, Joseph Stanhope, Eleazer Twitchell, and John LeBourveau, selectmen of Packersfield, directed the Constable to call a town meeting, one of the articles in the warrant for which was "To see if the town will grant money to purchase a stock of ammunition for said town."

The meeting was held at the meeting-house on the 5th of January, 1775, and although, after some discussion, they voted to pass over the article, it was done from motives of policy rather than from any want of patriotism on the part of the voters. On the 20th of the same month another meeting was held at which John LeBourveau, Major Breed Batchelder and Lieut. Abijah Brown were chosen a committee to correspond with Capt. Isaac Wyman in relation to these preparations, and other important matters relating to the times.

Capt. Isaac Wyman was chairman of the Committee of Safety for Keene, a member of the General Assembly of the Province, and a few weeks later,

[25] "Pole" houses were what they called them. Later they built "board" houses.

the commander of the company that marched out of Keene when the news came of the fight at Lexington and Concord.

On the 12th of April another meeting was held—Amos Skinner moderator—and Dr. Nath'l Breed, Eleazer Twitchell and Joseph Stanhope were chosen a committee to correspond with similar committees in other towns "On any occasion that may offer, and they think proper," and Amos Skinner, Lieut. Abijah Brown and Dr. Nath'l Breed were chosen a *"Committee of Safety,* and to put the Resolves of the American Congress in force, and advertise those that refuse or neglect to comply."

At the time Breed Batchelder was a Major in the militia of the province, and Eleazer Twitchell was Captain and Abijah Brown Lieutenant of the military company which had been formed here in town.

The whole number of inhabitants in the town was 173, of whom 83 were females, 50 boys under sixteen years of age, 4 above the age of 50, and 34 between the ages of sixteen and fifty. The whole number of firearms fit for use was 23.

On the 19th of April the British marched out of Boston and attacked the patriots at Lexington and Concord. War had begun. The first blood had been shed. Horsemen galloped in every direction, and the alarm spread from neighbor to neighbor. Before noon the next day the news had reached Packersfield, and *at sunrise the next morning twenty-seven men assembled* under Lieut. Abijah Brown, and hurried to the scene of action.

Major Batchelder, instead of joining the troops here, went down to Keene, as he said, "To see if the report of a battle was correct." When he returned and found the company had gone he followed on, and overtook them on the road. But his townsmen had been suspicious of him before, and their suspicions were increased by his lack of promptness in joining, and marching with them. The company marched to Cambridge, where it encamped, and lay for several weeks, and Batchelder was in command, but the coolness between him and his men continued, and some of them would not speak to him. Not having a supply of arms, by the advice of the generals in command, several of the men returned home to plant their corn, before the battle of Bunker Hill was fought. Batchelder was very much soured and chagrined by the treatment he received while there, and he also came home.

On the 9th of May a town meeting was held at the meeting-house at which Dr. Nath'l Breed and Eleazer Twitchell were chosen delegates to represent the town in the Provincial Congress, which then held its sessions at Exeter.

At another meeting, on the 25th of September, Eleazer Twitchell, Benjamin Nurse, John French, Amos Skinner and Abijah Brown were chosen a "Committee of Inspection," which appears to have been the same as a Committee of Safety.

In December of that year the town united with Stoddard, then called Limerick, in sending a delegate to the Provincial Congress at Exeter, and sent as appears by the record, a Capt. Robert Pollock from that town.

The next year Packerseld united with Stoddard, Camden (now Washington) and Gilsum, and sent Joseph Rounseval of Camden as their delegate. In October of that year the Provincial Congress held a special convention in

which it "Resolved itself into the House of Representatives of the state of New Hampshire."

Mr. Rounseval also represented the same towns the following year. He was one of the prominent men of the state, and his handwriting which appears often among the state records of that time was one of extreme neatness and elegance.

On the 16th of November, 1775, the Provincial Congress at Exeter had *"Voted* that the Committee of Safety in each town be requested to transmit to the Committee of Safety for this Colony the names and places of abode of all such persons as they suspect to be any ways inimical to this country, with the causes and evidences of such suspicions."

The "Association Test"—1776

In the month of April, 1776, the following documents were sent by the Committee of Safety for New Hampshire to the selectmen of the various towns, and the "Return" from Packersfield is given below.

"To the Selectmen of Packersfield.

Colony of New Hampshire.

In Committee of Safety

April 12th 1776

In order to carry the underwritten RESOLVE of the Hon'ble Continental Congress into Execution you are requested to desire all Males above Twenty One Years of Age, (Lunatics, Idiots and Negroes excepted,) to sign to the Decclaration on this paper; and when so done to make return hereof, together with the Name or Names of all who shall refuse to sign the same, to the General Assembly, or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

M. Weare, *Chairman.*

In Congress March 14th 1776

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, *immediately* to cause all persons to be *disarmed,* within their respective Colonies, who are *notoriously* disaffected to the cause of AMERICA, Or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend by ARMS the United Colonies, against the Hostile Attempts of the British Fleets and Armies.

Extract from the minutes

(copy) Charles Thompson, *Sec'y.*

In consequence of the above Resolution of the Hon. Continental Congress, and to show our Determination in joining our American Brethren in defending the Lives, Liberties and Properties of the Inhabitants of the United Colonies:

We the Subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets and Armies against the United American Colonies.

Aaron Beal, Absalom Farwell, William Beal, Joseph Mason, Benjamin Nurse, Jr., Amos Child, John Farwell, Abijah Brown, Richard Farwell, Amos Skinner, Nathaniel Breed, Joseph Stanhope, Eleazer Twitchell, John Spinney, Benjamin Nurse, John French, John S. Newhall, Philip Bailash, John Adams, James Phillips, Jonathan Nichols, Henry Bemis, John Estabrook, Joel Wright, William Follett, Timothy Farley, James Bancroft, Thomas Upham, Nathaniel Breed, Jr., Jonathan Felt, Noah Day, Bunker Clark, David Marshall, Edmund Taylor, Samuel Everett, John Morse, Reuben Welman, John Stroud.

In obedience to Your Honors we have faithfully discharged the duties requested, desiring each man to sign this covenant within our limits, all which have signed except Major Breed Batchelder.[26]

JOSEPH STANHOPE,
JOHN SPINNEY,
ELEAZER TWITCHELL,
} *Selectmen of Packersfield.*

At a town meeting held not long afterwards it was *"Voted* to raise twenty pounds sterling in addition to ten pounds previously raised, to buy powder and other warlike stores for the town."

BATCHELDER AS A TORY.

During that year Batchelder remained at home and did everything in his power to discourage enlistments, and intimidate his neighbors and townsmen from joining the cause of the patriots. He was a man of much natural ability, of great determination, possessed of considerable wealth for those times, and had a powerful influence upon those around him.

In 1772 he had bought, in addition to all he previously owned, 2,175 acres of land in the southeast quarter of the town, lying in detached tracts, the deeds of which are recorded in Cheshire Records.

At the time of the "Tea party" in Boston, he started immediately for Canada and brought home a large quantity of tea (smuggled, no doubt), upon which he not only made an enormous profit, but which, together with rum and other articles, desirable in those times, he distributed among his neighbors in such a way as to place them under great obligations to him.

But the patriotic feeling was strong among them, and growing stronger every day, and notwithstanding his power and influence they denounced him, both publicly and privately.

He had been their leading man in all public affairs, but before the war broke out he had made himself obnoxious by his tory proclivities, and his name disappears from all town offices in the autumn of 1774.

On the 17th of September (1776) a town meeting was held, James Bancroft moderator, at which it was voted to dismiss the Committee of Safety, and a new one was chosen by ballot, consisting of Dr. Nath'l Breed, Reuben Welman, James Bancroft, John Adams and Aaron Beal. The former committee had been considered somewhat remiss in the performance of their duties, particularly in not arresting Batchelder for disloyalty.

The new committee, headed by James Bancroft, who was also a recruiting

[26]Packersfield had but one "Tory." Other towns were not so fortunate, for example, Marlborough had 5; Hinsdale had 10, Keene, 12; Chesterfield, 13, Henniker, 22, and Claremont, 31. In some parts of the country they were in the majority and the conflict was a civil as well as a foreign war.—*Eds.*

officer at that time, soon after their election arrested Batchelder and locked him up in the jail at Keene.

The arrest was made by Bancroft and two others of the Committee, who went to him ostensibly to talk with him, and persuade him, if possible, to join the whigs.

Batchelder treated them with much politeness and suavity, gave them an excellent dinner and as much *talk* as they desired. Under some pretence he was persuaded to go down to Keene with them, and there they arrested him and shut him up in jail.

As they turned to leave him at the door of the jail, he inquired if they would attempt to go home that night, as it was then late. They said they must do so if possible.

Batchelder politely invited them to call at his house and inform his family where he was, and to remain there over night. "Tell them," said he, "that I am *well cared for by my friends.* If they have retired for the night, call them up, and you shall be treated to the best the house affords." They declined his invitation.

"Oh, stop," says Batchelder, "and if nothing more, have the cold turkey left at dinner."

Bancroft said the *thrust* came home, and the committee also, but they didn't stop for the cold turkey.

Not long afterward, however, Batchelder was set at liberty. Probably he had not, at that time, committed any overt act of treason and therefore could not be held, but the people of the town were very indignant that he should escape punishment.

About this time Col. Enoch Hale of Unity was authorized to raise a regiment of Continental troops—regulars—and called on Packersfield for her quota of five men, according to the allotment.

On the 4th of the next April—1777—the town held a meeting, George Brintnall moderator, at which the town voted to send the following address or petition to Col. Hale:

"To Col. Enoch Hale.

Sir

In obedience to your request the town has been called together in a legal meeting, and the company by themselves, and they are generally of a mind that as they are fighting against enemies, they have one more dangerous to fight against at home than any abroad, viz. Major Breed Batchelder, who has from the very first appeared inimical to the cause of America and has discouraged said cause, and he has threatened the lives and health of the good people of this town, so that some that intended to have gone in the service are afraid to leave home and to leave their families exposed to his resentments. The committee of the town have, for above a year past, endeavored to have him brought to a proper trial, but could not be heard, and when the committees of other towns tried and condemned him to the common jail, he was set at liberty without our knowledge, and to our astonishment. And all the information that we could get after inquiring, was, that the jailer told us Your Honor told him he was at liberty. And since we hear he has been tried at the General Court without proper evidence, which might

have been produced if summoned: which we think is an arbitrary way of proceeding, and is so looked on by our neighbors.

We are willing, and have signed, to abide by the orders of the Continental Congress, and we think this state ought to follow Gen. Washington's orders either to make them that are inimical swear to be friends, or treat them as foes. And Major Breed Batchelder has had his name returned to you as a man to go in the service, and he has done nothing yet, but still refuses, though he is much the richest man in town. We have sent nearly half of our number the first year, and more than our proportion since, and have lost a number in the war. There are but five young men left in the Train Band, and they have been in the war, and we are poor; but if we could have justice done us, we will do to the utmost of our abilities in the common cause."

(Signed) "Nath'l Breed, Town Clerk,
in behalf of the town."

It was also *"voted,* that Lieut. Amos Skinner go with Capt. Eleazer Twitchell to carry the above petition."

That meeting was adjourned for six days, and when it reassembled, on the 10th of the same month, the town voted to furnish its quota of five men as required by Col. Hale, and raised forty-one pounds ten shillings by subscription, to pay them.

Batchelder stubbornly persevered in his loyalty to the king, and the feeling against him grew stronger and more bitter. He had now been returned as a suitable man to serve in the field, which amounted to the same as a draft, and so long as he kept away was liable to arrest and punishment as a deserter. He was hunted like a wild beast, and the people were so exasperated, if they could have captured him no doubt he would have been shot or hung.

During the early part of that summer—1777—he lived for three months in a cave about eighty rods south of his house, not daring to be seen by his neighbors. The cave is still called "Batchelder's den."

While there his wife used to carry him provision, passing from the house in a direction different from that to the cave, and then coming round to it. Some of the neighbors, of course, were personally friendly to the man who had been a kind neighbor to them, and a prominent man among them, and they would at times render him some slight assistance. Mr. James Philips, who lived in that part of the town, used to carry a jug of rum and set it in a sly place by a brook, and Batchelder, knowing the place, would get it and use up the contents, and then set the empty jug in the same place for Philips to fill again. Rum, in those days, was thought to be almost as necessary as bread.

Officers and scouts were constantly on the watch for him, and one day they went to his house to arrest him, thinking he had gone there at the time. Mrs. B. was a spirited woman and met them at the door and forbade them to enter. They insisted upon coming in. She caught a "piggin" of boiling water from a kettle over the fire and dared them to set foot in the house. The story goes that Batchelder was in the house at the time, but she defended the castle so bravely at the front, that he had time to slip out on the other side and escape to the woods without being seen by the officers.

One day, while living in the cave, his pursuers came directly upon the rock above him, and he overheard them telling what they would do if they caught him. From their threats he came to the conclusion that the only way to save his life was to leave the country. He told his wife so when she came with his food, and arranged with her to see his children once more. The next morning the mother told the children they might go and pick some strawberries. They went to the field indicated, and there very unexpectedly to them, they met their father. This was his last interview with them. Already his enemies were on his track. He fled towards the pinnacle north of his house,—near the "Buckminster place,"—and his pursuers were so close upon him they prevented him from running down the hill to the right or left, but drove him towards the top of the hill. The north side of that pinnacle is a perpendicular rock, or ledge, some sixty feet high, and they believed escape on that side impossible. Sure of their prey they closed in upon the top of the hill, when to their surprise and chagrin, they found he had eluded their grasp.

He had discovered a winding chasm in the rock, leading to the foot of the precipice, down which, like "Old Put," he had escaped, and was never more seen in this part of the country. That place in the rock is called to this day "Batchelder's stairs."

At that time the British army under Burgoyne was invading the states from Canada, by way of Lake Champlain. Batchelder made direct for that army, and we find by certificates of surgeons and officers in the British army that he joined that force in 1777, and was made a captain in Lieut. Col. Peters' Corps of the "Queen's Rangers." Soon afterward he was detached, with his company, to Bennington under Col. Baum, where he was severely wounded in the shoulder by a musket ball. Pieces of the bone came out a long time afterward, and his arm was rendered nearly useless.

Richard Farwell, who was in that fight from this town, used to say that he saw Batchelder there, in the ranks of the British, and took as good aim at him as he ever did at a black duck.

He was in the British army at Saratoga when it surrendered, but was sent into Canada among the wounded—that disposition of the wounded being in accordance with the articles of the convention.

He was afterwards sent to New York City where he lay at the expense of the British until the termination of the war in 1783, when he was sent with the British troops to Digby in Nova Scotia.

There he became very dissipated, and finally, in 1785, was drowned by falling from a boat, in the Basin of Annapolis.

On the 28th of Nov., 1778, an act was passed by the legislature confiscating the property of the tories, and naming among others, John Wentworth, Governor of the state at the time of the breaking out of the war, and Breed Batchelder of this town. In Batchelder's case a committee was appointed to receive the property, and they took the "Out lands," including "2,940 acres in the northeast quarter, and 576 acres in the same quarter, near the meeting-house, with Mill Seat,"—in all 6,182 acres "valued, before the war broke out," at 4,500 pounds sterling. But the widow and children were allowed to keep the homestead which remained in possession of the family for more than half a century after the close of the war.

Thomas Packer Batchelder afterwards went to England to obtain from the government, if possible, a restitution of or an equivalent for the property his father had lost. He succeeded in obtaining a grant of a large tract of wild land in Canada, on condition that he would settle it with a certain number of families. He went on and made a commencement himself, but finally, becoming dissipated, he lost his papers, and with them his whole grant

It was the opinion of some that if Batchelder had not been so harshly, and scornfully treated, he never would have gone over to the British. It is probable, however, that his strongest motive for adhering to the cause of the king, was that he believed England would ultimately subdue the rebels, and he preferred to be on the winning side, and thus preserve his property.

After he had left the country, his wife and children were very harshly treated by their neighbors, whose partisan feelings were so strong as to lead them to heap indignity and abuse upon the innocent family of him whom they believed to be guilty of treason.

Packersfield did nobly in furnishing men and means for the war.

Many of these soldiers served during the war, while some were volunteers for certain expeditions, or campaigns, and were at home a part of the time. At the time of the alarm in Coos, in 1780, when the inhabitants were attacked by the British, Indians and Tories, and Royalston was burned, thirty-two men were sent from this town to assist in repelling the invaders.

Several, also, who went into the army from other towns, and did good service, came and settled in town during, or very soon after the war, and are mentioned below among the Revolutionary Heroes of the town.

(End of General Griffin's sketch.)

OUTLINE OF THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

1775-1783.

In the evening of April 18th, 1775, a British detachment marched from Boston, bound for Concord, Mass., with the purpose of destroying military stores collected there by the patriots. An alarm, spread by Paul Revere and others, gave time for the concealment of most of such property before their arrival. (See Josiah Melville).

At daybreak, April 19, 1775, such detachment, under orders of Major John Pitcairn, fired on a company of American "Minute Men" gathered on Lexington Common, in front of the Meeting House, killing eight and wounding a number of others. This was the first bloodshed of the war. Proceeding to the North Bridge at Concord they met minute men from Acton, Sudbury and other towns. There the Acton company, under Captain Isaac Davis, fired on them. This was the first organized resistance. (See William Barker and Ezra Smith).

On their retreat to Boston the British were harassed by the fire of Minute Men who had hastily gathered from all the surrounding country. (See Joshua Felt, Amos Bryant and John Burnap).

"And there was tumult in the air,
The fife's shrill note, the drums' loud beat;
And through the wild land everywhere
The answering tread of hurrying feet,
While the first oath of Freedom's gun
Came on the blast from Lexington."*

The "Alarm" reached Packersfield in the afternoon of April 20, 1775. At daylight next morning twenty-seven men marched under Lieut. Abijah Brown. At least fifteen of them enlisted for eight months in the "Continental" Army (so-called because under the authority of the Continental Congress of the Thirteen Colonies). Boston was besieged. On June 17th the patriots occupied Charlestown peninsula and the battle of "Bunker Hill" took place, in which upwards of thirty, then or subsequently residents of Packersfield, were on the firing line, and at least two were killed. (See Samuel Griffin).

On July 2nd George Washington took command of the army. The siege continued without further local event of great importance during the rest of the year.

May 10th, Ethan Allen, by a surprise attack, took Fort Ticonderoga, at the junction of Lake George with Lake Champlain, commanding the great water route to the north. In September two expeditions were sent out for the Conquest of Canada. One, under Montgomery, by way of Lake Champlain, and the other under Benedict Arnold by way of the Kennebec River. The latter endured extreme hardship en route. An attack on Quebec the last day of the year ended in the death of Montgomery, the wounding of Arnold, and the capture of a large part of their forces. (See Ebenezer Tolman).

1776.

Reinforcements sent to the Northern Army met with disaster at "The Cedars" and elsewhere, and by July 1st the Americans were driven out of Canada and retired to Ticonderoga. (See Solomon Kittredge).

There they hastily constructed a fleet which, under command of Arnold, fought the British on Lake Champlain in October and was utterly destroyed. (See Thomas Baker).

Meanwhile, in the early part of the year, cannon were brought from Ticonderoga to the army before Boston and for the first time it was in a position to make an attack. Dorchester Heights, commanding the city, were seized and, on March 17th, the British were forced to sail away to Halifax. (See Samuel Felt).

Anticipating that New York would next be attacked, Washington hastily marched most of his army there and took possession of the city. In June he narrowly missed being assassinated by Thomas Hickey. The latter was hung June 28, and that very day the British fleet appeared off Sandy Hook. (See John White).

On July 4th the Continental Congress at Philadelphia adopted the Declaration of Independence.

The British landed on Staten Island. Washington occupied the western end of Long Island, now Brooklyn, where, in the latter part of August, he was attacked by a superior force and there was fierce fighting, known as the battle

*From "The Rising", by Thomas Buchanan Read.

of "Long Island", on August 27th and 28th. By a skillful manœuvre the American Army was withdrawn in the night time to Manhattan Island, and retreated northward. "Harlem Heights," a rear guard action, was fought on September 15th. (See John White).

The battle of "White Plains," twenty-five miles from New York, took place on October 28th, and there the British pursuit ended. Washington retired a little farther into the "Highlands," while the enemy returned, and on November 15th captured the isolated garrison at "Fort Washington". (See Samuel Felt and Joseph Felt).

Washington, with most of the small remnant of his forces, only about 3,300 men, then crossed the Hudson and marched through New Jersey trying to reach Philadelphia. He was closely pursued by Lord Cornwallis. On the night of December 8th the Americans crossed the Delaware at Trenton, taking with them all the boats in the neighborhood. (See Amos Richardson.) The British waited for the river to freeze over. On Christmas night Washington, recrossing through the floating ice, surprised and captured the entire British garrison at Trenton. (See Samuel Felt).

1777.

Each colony was supposed to furnish and keep recruited a number of Continental regiments (Regulars) in proportion to its population. New Hampshire and Massachusetts did so. Others fell short. New Hampshire never had less than three regiments, each town supplying its "quota."

The Continental Congress paid these troops in paper money, which rapidly depreciated until it became worthless. The colonies were called on for supplies, but there was no way to enforce the contributions, transportation was difficult or impossible, and some did not properly respond. Consequently the "Continentals" were usually in a state of destitution. They were strengthened from time to time by bodies of militia, enlisted for short terms by some of the colonies and paid by them. New Hampshire sent outside her borders six such regiments during 1776. Relays of such militia formed the principal part of the garrison of Fort Ticonderoga. In the spring of 1777 there were rumors of an invasion from Canada, and the garrison was strengthened. In June an invasion under Burgoyne actually came up Lake Champlain. An alarm went out and many volunteers hastily marched, but most of them were too late, and met the American Army retreating. (See John Farwell and David Kimball).

Ticonderoga was abandoned July 6th. On July 7th the British cut to pieces the patriot rear guard at Hubbardston (see Ebenezer Tolman), and gradually forced their way toward the Hudson River. (See David Kimball).

As the British proceeded south the militia of the western part of New Hampshire was organized under General Stark, and marched against them. At Bennington on August 16th the former were defeated with great loss. (See Richard Farwell).

Burgoyne reached the Hudson River, crossed to the west side at Saratoga, and was met by the Americans at "Stillwater," where the first battle of "Saratoga" occurred on September 15th. On October 7th occurred the second battle of "Saratoga" and, as the result, on October 17th all that was left of the British Army surrendered. (See David Kimball).

The prisoners were marched to Cambridge, where they were called "troops of convention" and confined for a long time guarded by organizations made up of either the very young or very old Colonials. (See Samuel Scripture, Jr.).

Meanwhile, Washington, with the main American Army, had been fighting against great odds in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. On September 11th he was badly defeated at "Brandywine," and on September 26th the British entered Philadelphia. On October 4th he was again utterly defeated at "Germantown." A part of the army from the north, released from the Burgoyne campaign, then joined him, and he went into winter quarters near Philadelphia, at "Valley Forge", where those that stuck by him endured privations almost beyond belief. (See William Parker, Abijah Wetherbee and Levi Wilder.)

1778.

Benjamin Franklin had been in France trying to get aid. The Marquis de La Fayette, influenced solely by his interest in the cause and love of Liberty, came at his own expense and rendered invaluable assistance. Finally, after the capture of Burgoyne, the French government became interested. They sent Baron Steuben to serve as a much needed drill master and instructor to officers, as well as men, and he and La Fayette were both at Valley Forge in the spring of 1778. (See William Parker).

Later a French fleet, convoying 4,000 soldiers, arrived and lay off the coast.

The British, fearing that they would be bottled up in Philadelphia, marched back to New York. On the way they were attacked and the battle of "Monmouth" took place June 28th. (See Abijah Wetherbee, William Parker and Levi Wilder).

Washington then made his headquarters in the "Highlands" at West Point, on the west side of the Hudson, where the river breaks through the Catskill Mountains. From this as a center his lines formed a "V", one arm extending southeast to Long Island Sound, and the other southwest to Morristown, New Jersey. An advanced post was at White Plains. These positions were maintained until the end of the war.

The British were now mostly in New York City, but about 6,000 were at Newport, R. I. A plan was formed to trap the latter force between the French and a land force made up mostly of New England Militia under Gen. Sullivan. It failed of success in August of this year, owing to a great storm that crippled the French fleet. After the battle of "Rhode Island", August 29th, Sullivan's Army was compelled to withdraw. (See Timothy Bancroft).

This was the last engagement of importance in the north.

On November 10th occurred an Indian Massacre on the western frontier at "Cherry Valley". (See David Kimball).

1779.

The principal event of this year was a punitive expedition under General Sullivan against the Iroquois that permanently broke the power of all the great Indian tribes. (See David Kimball).

In September the British evacuated Newport and the scene of war shifted to the South—the Carolinas and Georgia.

The Continental Army in winter quarters in the "Highlands" suffered

almost as severely as at Valley Forge. (See Samuel Scripture, Jr., and David Kimball).

1780.

Benedict Arnold, who had shown himself a brave man in the Quebec Expedition in the battles of Lake Champlain and Saratoga and elsewhere, but who, it is charged, had always been a "grafter", conspicuously in Montreal in 1776, and in Philadelphia after its evacuation by the British in 1778, now nearly ruined the American cause by agreeing to sell West Point to the British for £10,000. The plot was discovered just in time. Arnold fled while the unfortunate Major Andre, who was the British negotiator, was hung. (See Noah Hardy, David Kimball and Josiah Melville).

During the year occurred the conquest by the British of South Carolina and Georgia.

1781.

The British Army that, under Lord Cornwallis, had been operating in the South, very unwisely gathered at Yorktown, Virginia, situated on a tongue of land between the York and James rivers, which was the scene of the so-called "Peninsula" campaign during the Civil War. Washington was quick to grasp the situation and, with the French, he planned another trap almost exactly like the one that had failed at Newport. He threatened New York City to make General Clinton in command there believe he was about to attack, while his main army (including Scammel's N. H. Regiment with several Packersfield men) made forced marches southward. He closed in on Cornwallis by land just as the French fleet arrived by sea. The siege began September 28th, and on October 19th the British Army was forced to unconditional surrender. Colonel Scammel, not only a particularly brave and efficient officer, but said to have been the only man in the army who could make Washington laugh, was killed during these operations. (See Samuel Adams).

Meanwhile Benedict Arnold, trying to divert Washington from his purpose, with a strong force of "Tories" was ravaging the coast of Connecticut.

1782-1783.

The armies remained in the field and there were desultory engagements, mostly on the frontier. (See Nathaniel Barrett, Daniel Holt and Joel Holt). Peace negotiations went on for a long time. November 30th, 1782, provisional articles were signed, which subsequently became final without change. March 23, 1783, was the day that the news reached America that the Revolutionary War was at an end. Armies were disbanded, prisoners set free on both sides, and in December Washington formally resigned his commission and retired to private life.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

There was no attempt made to give pensions until 1818, before which time many who had taken part in the war were dead. Then they were given only for Continental service, and very grudgingly. Many were revoked and had to be reapplied for with additional proof of pecuniary need.

A general service pension law was not passed until 1832, fifty-seven years after the beginning of the war.

For this reason many who served never made any formal statement of their service, and it can only be ascertained from the fragmentary records now available. Owing to the poverty of the people—frequently they had no paper—and the lack of organization and demoralization of changing governments, the records were originally defective or at least scanty. Many that were made have been lost or destroyed, or are now in private hands, where they cannot be reached. For example, twenty-seven men marched from Packersfield on the "Lexington" Alarm, and thirty-two on the "Coos" Alarm, but in neither case can a roll giving the names be found. There even are no rolls of the Minute Men of Lexington, Concord and Acton. A portion of the Town Clerks' records of Packersfield have been lost.

The editors of the following pages have, under the circumstances, done the best they could, but in some instances probably "the half has not been told."

UNITED STATES REVOLUTIONARY PENSIONERS LIVING IN NELSON, ROXBURY OR SULLIVAN, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF OLD PACKERSFIELD.

"Well do I remember their assembling at the old store twice a year to receive their pensions. Josiah Robbins, Esq., one of their number and for many years town clerk, who used to sign his name with *capitals*, made out their papers.

The first to make his appearance in the morning was David Kimball, who was noted for his promptness on all occasions.

They were a noble band of men, and used to enjoy themselves and entertain others by relating stories of their hardships and sufferings in the struggle for Independence. Probably few towns of its size in New England had more Revolutionary pensioners than Nelson."

JOSIAH H. MELVILLE,
in "Nelson Clarion,"
March, 1870.

	Placed on Roll	Annual Allowance
PHILIP ATWOOD	Feb. 2, 1833	50.
THOMAS BAKER	June 6, 1833	34.99
TIMOTHY BANCROFT	Jan. 9, 1834	23.33
AMOS BRYANT	July 8, 1819	96.
PETER CHANDLER	——— 1818	*96.
ISAAC DAVIS	Mch. 15, 1833	74.
SAMUEL DERBY	Feb. 25, 1833	40.88
JOSEPH FELT	——— 1818	*96.
SAMUEL FELT	June 18, 1818	96.
NOAH HARDY	Feb. 19, 1833	47.43
JOEL HOLT	——— 1818	*96.
DAVID KIMBALL	Apr. 21, 1818	96.
JOSHUA KITTREDGE	Feb. 25, 1833	30.
WILLIAM PARKER	Feb. 4, 1833	88.
GIDEON PHILLIPS	Nov. 26, 1832	80.
JOSIAH ROBBINS	Feb. 28, 1833	66.66
BENJAMIN SAWYER	Feb. 25, 1833	46.66
SAMUEL SCRIPTURE	Feb. 25, 1833	80.
EBENEZER TOLMAN	Feb. 25, 1833	53.33
ABIJAH WETHERBEE	Jan. 20, 1819	96.
JOHN WHITE	July 7, 1819	96.
NEHEMIAH WRIGHT	Feb. 25, 1833	36.66
OLIVER WRIGHT	Feb. 25, 1833	26.66

* Probable amount.

General S. G. Griffin, in his boyhood, was probably acquainted with all of these, except Chandler and Samuel Felt. The former died before Griffin was born, and the latter when he was about three years old. *Editors.*

* * * * * * * * * * *

NAMES AND RECORDS OF PIONEER SETTLERS OF PACKERSFIELD, NOW NELSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE, WHO HAD PART IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION, 1775-1783.

Edited by Henry Melville and Charles A. Bemis, Assisted by Memoranda Prepared by General S. G. Griffin.

"They left the ploughshare in the mould,
Their flocks and herds without a fold,
The sickle in the unshorn grain,
The corn, half garnered, on the plain,
And mustered, in their simple dress,
For wrongs to seek a stern redress,
To right those wrongs, come weal, come woe,
To perish, or o'ercome their foe."*

JOSEPH ABBOTT.

Born in Andover, Mass., April 2, 1744. At the time of the war living in Wilton, New Hampshire.

Sergeant in Captain Nathan Ballard's Company; raised out of Colonel Nichols' Regiment of Militia, which company marched from Amherst and Wilton for Ticonderoga on the alarm of June 29, 1777. Marched first to No. 4 (Charlestown), where they were ordered home, and marched as far as Dublin, when they were ordered by express to turn and march with all speed for Ticonderoga. Marched as far as Otter Creek, where had news of the evacuation of the fort. Service June 20, July 12, 1777 (See David Kimball). Probably other service. Came to Packersfield prior to 1787. Settled in North East Quarter. Elected Moderator of Town Meeting July 30, 1787, and of many subsequent meetings. Styled "Lieutenant" in record.

JOHN ADAMS.

One of the earliest settlers of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson), at some time prior to 1773.

His name appears as a town officer of Packersfield in 1774. At that time had already 15 acres cleared, 10 more cut over and a "board house" erected.

A signer of the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

On September 17, 1776, chosen a member of the Committee of Safety, his associates being Dr. Nathaniel Breed, Reuben Wellman, James Bancroft and Aaron Beal.

December 8, 1777, chosen a member of a committee to represent Packersfield in the election of a representative to the General Court at Exeter, for Packersfield, Stoddard, Washington and Gilsum, his associates being James Bancroft, Joel Wright, Captain Eleazer Twitchell and Richard Stoddard.

At a Town Meeting held March 29, 1779, elected chairman of a Committee of Safety, his associates being Stephen Cobb and Captain Stephen Parker.

Also otherwise active in town affairs.

Owing to the difficulty of determining identity, his military record cannot be given with certainty, though he undoubtedly had one.

*From "New England's Dead", by Isaac McLellan.

THE ASSOCIATION TEST

APRIL 1774

TO SHOW OUR DETERMINATION IN JOINING OUR AMERICAN BRETHREN IN DEFENDING THE LIVES, LIBERTIES AND PROPERTIES OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE UNITED COLONIES WE THE SUBSCRIBERS DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY ENGAGE AND PROMISE THAT WE WILL TO THE UTMOST OF OUR POWER AT THE RISQUE OF OUR LIVES AND FORTUNES WITH ARMS OPPOSE THE HOSTILE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BRITISH FLEETS AND ARMIES AGAINST THE UNITED AMERICAN COLONIES

TO THE MEMORY OF

THE PIONEER SETTLERS OF PACKERSFIELD

WHO SIGNED THE FOREGOING TEST
OR HAD ALREADY TAKEN THE FIELD
AND OTHERS COMING LATER

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION

1775 – 1783

WHO LEFT THE PLOUGHSHARE IN THE MOULD
THEIR FLOCKS AND HERDS WITHOUT A FOLD
THE SICKLE IN THE UNSHORN GRAIN
THE CORN HALF GARNERED ON THE PLAIN
AND MUSTERED IN THEIR SIMPLE DRESS
FOR WRONGS TO SEEK A STERN REDRESS
TO RIGHT THOSE WRONGS COME WEAL COME WOE
TO PERISH OR OERCOME THEIR FOE

JOSEPH ABBOTT JOHN ADAMS SAMUEL ADAMS JOHN ATWOOD
JOTHAM ATWOOD PHILIP ATWOOD DAVID AYRES PHILIP BAILEY
AMOS BAKER JOEL BAKER JOSEPH BAKER THOMAS BATES
JAMES BANCROFT TIMOTHY BANCROFT JAMES BANKS THEODORE BAKER
WILLIAM BARKER WILLIAM BARKER NATHANIEL BARRETT SAMUEL BASSETT
AARON BEAL WILLIAM BEAL HENRY BEMIS DAVID BERRY
BENJAMIN BIGELOW JONATHAN BIGELOW NATHANIEL BREED JR.
ALLEN BREED JOHN BREED JONATHANIEL BREED SOLOMON BRIGHAM
THOMAS BROWN ISAAC BREWER JONAS BRIGHAM GEORGE BRINTNALL
ADRIAN BROWN JOHN BROWN AMOS BRYANT JAMES BRYANT
SOLOMON BUCKMINSTER JOHN BURNAP JOHN BURTON PETER CHANDLER
JOB CHILD JUNKER CLARK SETH COBB STEPHEN COBB
SAMUEL CUMMINGS ISAAC DAVIS JONAS DAVIS BENJAMIN DAY
NOAH DAY SELESTIAN DAY SAMUEL DERBY JONATHAN DERBY
ROBERT EAMES JOHN EASTABROOK SAMUEL EVERETT SOLOMON FARLEY
TIMOTHY FARLEY WILLIAM FARLEY ABSALOM FARWELL JOHN FARWELL
RICHARD FARWELL ELIPHALET FELT JONATHAN FELT JOSEPH FELT
JOSHUA FELT SAMUEL FELT WILLIAM FOLLETT REV. JACOB FOSTER
JONATHAN FRENCH JOHN FRENCH JOHN FRENCHER WILLIAM FRENCH
JOHN GIDEON ABRAHAM GOODENOW SAMUEL GRIFFIN JAMES GROVER
JONATHAN HALED NOAH HALEY ERASTUS HARRIS LUTHER HEATON
SHADRACH HILL DANIEL HOLT JOEL HOLT SOLOMON INGALLS
JONATHAN JEWETT DAVID KIMBALL JOSHUA KITTREDGE SOLOMON KITTREDGE
JOSHUA LAWRENCE MARTIN LAWRENCE JOHN U BOURDEAU JONATHAN LOVEJOY
JOHN MERIAM BANNISTER MAYNARD DAVID MARSHALL JOSEPH MASON
JOSIAH MELVILLE JOHN MORSE JOHN M. MORSE JOHN S. NEWHALL
JOHN NEWMAN JONATHAN NICHOLS BENJAMIN NURSE BENJAMIN NURSE JR.
JONAS NURSE ZEBEDIAH PAINE JONATHAN PARKER STEPHEN PARKER
WILLIAM PARKER EBENEZER PERRY RICHARD PERRY GIDEON PHILLIPS
JAMES PHILLIPS RICHARD PHILLIPS NEWEMIAH PIERCE WILLIAM PRIEST
ISAAC PROCTOR BENJAMIN RICE CHARLES RICE AMOS RICHARDSON
JOHN RICHARDSON THOMAS RICHARDSON SAMUEL RIPLEY JOSIAH ROBBINS
BENJAMIN SAWTER SAMUEL SCRIPTURE SAMUEL SCRIPTURE JR. AMOS SKINNER
ABIEL SMITH EZRA SMITH JOHN SPINNEY DAVID SPOFFORD
JOHN SPRAGUE JOSEPH STANFORD ISAAC STANHOPE JOSEPH STANHOPE
JOSEPH STILES ELIJAH STOCKER RICHARD STODDARD JOHN STROUD
EDMUND TAYLOR JOHN TAYLOR EBENEZER TOLMAN EBENEZER TWITCHELL
STEPHEN TWITCHELL THOMAS UPHAM ROBERT USHER SOLOMON WARFIELD
REUBEN WELLMAN SAMUEL WELLMAN NATHAN WESTON ABIJAH WETHERBEE
BENJAMIN WHEELER JACOB WHEELER PETER WHEELER URIAH WHEELER
LEVI WHITCOMB JOHN WHITE SAMUEL WHITE JOSIAH WHITNEY
OLIVER WHITNEY LEVI WILDER ACHELAUS WILSON JOSEPH WINCH
JOEL WRIGHT NEHEMIAH WRIGHT OLIVER WRIGHT OLIVER WRIGHT JR.

THIS MONUMENT
OF ROUGH HEWN NATIVE GRANITE TYPICAL OF THEIR RUGGED VIRTUES, ON THE OLD TOWN COMMON NEAR THE SPOT APPOINTED FOR MILITARY EXERCISES, WHENCE THEY MARCHED ON THE LEXINGTON AND OTHER ALARMS AND WHERE MANY OF THEM ARE BURIED
IS INSCRIBED IN AUGUST 1917
ON THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN.

He may have been the John Adams who in May, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Benjamin Mann's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment, and was at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775 (See Samuel Griffin), and possibly the "Lieutenant" John Adams of Captain Chase Taylor's Company in Colonel Thomas Stickney's Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, from July 22nd, to September 26th, 1777.

Styled "Lieutenant" Adams in minutes of a town meeting held May 25, 1780.

Lived for many years on the William Seaver place above Breed Pond, and subsequently removed to Rodman, New York, where he died January 13, 1820.

SAMUEL ADAMS.

Born in Braintree, Mass., in 1755.

A member of Captain Joseph Guild's Company of Col. Greaton's Regiment, which marched from Dedham, Mass., on the alarm of April 19, 1775.

April 30, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Guild's Company of Col. Heath's Regiment.

Re-enlisted January 1, 1776, for one year in Captain Guild's Company of Col. Greaton's Regiment, Mass. Continental Line. Discharged at Newark, New Jersey.

Came to Packersfield about 1780, and March 19, 1781, enlisted from Packersfield for three years in Captain Isaac Farwell's Company in Col. Scammel's First New Hampshire Regiment, Continental Line. His description then was "Age 28 years, stature 5 ft. 5 in." Probably in Yorktown Campaign, which resulted in the surrender of Cornwallis. April 11, 1783, hired Jacob Eastman as a substitute for the remainder of his term.

October 7, 1818, in Nelson, made a pension declaration stating foregoing Continental service.

Died, probably in Nelson, May 19, 1832.

JOHN ATWOOD.

Said to have been born in England.

The father of Philip and Josiah Atwood.

At the outbreak of the war is said to have resided at Templeton, Mass., and to have served several enlistments.

The name "John Atwood" of Templeton appears on numerous rolls between 1775 and 1780, but it seems certain that the records refer to two different persons and it is impossible to discriminate.

He probably came to Packersfield with his sons about 1780, and died in Nelson, December 31, 1814, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOSIAH ATWOOD.

Probably the Josiah Atwood who enlisted in Captain David Brent's Company of Colonel Job Cushing's Regiment, September 5, 1777, and was discharged November 29, 1777. The roll does not disclose exact place of service, simply saying "to the Northward". Quite likely other service.

John, Josiah and Philip Atwood are shown as residents of Packersfield in the first United States Census of 1790.

PHILIP ATWOOD.

Born in Woburn, Mass., January 4, 1756, son of John. At the outbreak of the war living in Templeton, Mass., from which place he made his numerous enlistments.

August 16, 1832, made an application for a pension, now on file at Washington, which shows the following services, viz:

1. In September, 1776, enlisted in Captain Boynton's Company of Colonel Dana's Regiment and marched successively to Hartford and New Haven, Conn., and thence to White Plains and Tarrytown, N. Y. At the latter place he "guarded" a British vessel of war that lay in the Hudson River. Then went to Dobbs Ferry and finally to White Plains, where he was discharged. Length of service about two months.

2. May 5th, 1777, enlisted in Captain William Henry's Company of Colonel Josiah Whitney's Regiment, marched through Worcester and joined his company at Rutland, Mass. Then marched to Providence, R. I., where he remained about a month, working on a fort. Then marched to a place in Rhode Island called Boston Neck, where kept guard against the landing of the British until discharged. Length of service two months and nine days.

3. In June, 1778, enlisted for nine months in the Continental Army, mustered in at Fishkill, N. Y., where he arrived June 23rd. Detailed to Quartermaster General's Department, and employed for a time in teaming from the barracks to Fishkill Landing, then sent to a place called "Little Pine Pastures" to press hay and carry it down to the army. Was discharged there about March 1st, 1779. During this enlistment never did any company duty, though belonging to Captain Wilder's Company of Colonel Sparhawk's Regiment. His discharge was signed by Colonel Hays of the Quartermaster's Department.

On this enlistment he was thus described: "Age 22 years; stature five feet six inches; complexion dark; residence Templeton, Mass."

4. July 9th, 1780, enlisted in Captain Ephraem Stearn's Company of Colonel John Rand's Regiment. Marched to Claverack and down the Hudson to Poughkeepsie, Fishkill and West Point, N. Y. Then was sent up the river chopping wood. Was at West Point at the time of Arnold's escape (see David Kimball, Noah Hardy and Josiah Melville). Later went to Fishkill and relieved the guard there. Returned to West Point again and chopped wood at "the Great Pine Pastures". Discharged there October 10, 1780.

It appears by the Cheshire Registry that, under date of May 9th, 1780, James Banks deeded to Philip Atwood, of Templeton, Mass., land in Packersfield. It is supposed that Atwood moved to the latter place in 1781. He lived there, in the west part of the town, until his death, October 8th, 1841, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

DAVID AVERILL.

A member of Captain Salmon Stone's Company of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that marched from Washington, N. H., to Cavendish, Vt., at the Ticonderoga Alarm in July, 1777, and then returned and joined Colonel Nichol's Regiment of General Stark's Brigade, and marched from Rindge to Bennington and Stillwater. Took part in the Battle of Bennington, August

16, 1777. Discharged September 25, 1777. In the same company were Noah Day, John French, Richard Farwell, Absalom Farwell, Thomas K. Breed, Jonathan Jewett, Isaac Proctor, John Stroud, Joseph Mason and perhaps others connected with Packersfield. (See Richard Farwell.)

In 1780 joined Captain Ephraim Stone's Company raised by the State of New Hampshire and put under the command of Major Benjamin Whitcomb, for the defense of the Western Frontier.

Came to Packersfield during the war; probably from Jaffrey. Was a blacksmith with a shop north of the village, near the outlet of White's Pond, where later there was a saw mill. Sold it to Levi Whitcomb about 1787.

PHILIP BAILASH (Billash).

One of the earliest settlers of Monadnock, No. 6, his name appearing on minutes of proprietors' meetings in 1773. In 1774 had nine acres cleared, six more cut over and a "pole house" erected, occupied by himself and family.

In April, 1776, one of the signers of the "Association Test" in Packersfield.

Settled north of Mud Pond, where there was until recently the remains of an old orchard and probably left prior to 1785.

AMOS BAKER.

Born in Shrewsbury, Mass., January 26, 1764. A son of Joseph Baker and brother of Joel Baker.

Enlisted from New Ipswich, N. H., February 28, 1781, in the Continental Army for three years or during the war. Served in the Eighth Company of Colonel Cilley's Regiment, New Hampshire Continental line.

Came to Packersfield with his father.

Died in the service of the United States near Buffalo, N. Y., October 7, 1814.

JOEL BAKER.

Born June 30, 1762. A son of Joseph Baker and brother of Amos Baker.

Enlisted from New Ipswich, N. H., March 6, 1781, in the Continental Army for three years, or during the war. Served in the Seventh Company of Col. Cilley's Regiment, New Hampshire Continental line.

JOSEPH BAKER.

Born in Marlboro, Mass., September 8, 1742. Brother of Thomas Baker; father of Joel and Amos.

He is supposed to be the "Joseph Baker" of Marlboro, who as a member of Captain Cyprian Howe's Company in Colonel Jonathan Ward's Regiment marched to Cambridge on the alarm of April 19, 1775, and there enlisted for eight months in Captain Cranson's Company of Colonel Whitcomb's Regiment (see Thomas Baker), and also was in Captain Gates' Company, on duty in New York in 1777.

Probably other service.

He came to Packersfield about 1780. Located in the northwest quarter on what was afterwards known as the Joseph Osgood place. General Griffin states that he operated a saw and grist mill below Munsonville.

Died in Nelson, about 1824.

THOMAS BAKER.

Born in Marlboro, Mass., December 31, 1756, and was living there at the outbreak of the war. Went into the field at least five times, viz.:

1. In June, 1775, for a short time took the place of his brother, Joseph Baker, in Captain Cranston's Company of Colonel Whitcomb's Regiment, before Boston, and while there, on June 17, 1775, occurred the battle of Bunker Hill, in which, by his pension declaration, verified August 16, 1832, he swears he participated.

He says that durnig the battle his company was commanded by Lieutenant Wyman, as Captain Cranston was in the "main guard."

2. About the middle of February, 1776, enlisted for two months in Captain Edgil's Company of Colonel Manning's Regiment, Massachusetts Militia, and was stationed at Cambridge, about half a mile east of Harvard College, doing guard and fatigue duty. Was there when the British evacuated Boston, March 17, 1776.

3. About the middle of July, 1776, enlisted for five months in Captain Gates' Company of Colonel Reed's Regiment and marched to Ticonderoga, where he remained till the expiration of his term. He states that during this time "our fleet was destroyed." (See David Kimball.)

When the patriot army was driven out of Canada in June, 1776 (See Ebenezer Tolman and Solomon Kittredge), it retreated to Ticonderoga, and there Arnold began building a navy, with which he hoped to secure control of Lake Champlain. On the 7th of October he moved north with a pitiful little fleet of three schooners, a sloop, eight gondolas and four galleys, with a few light guns, manned by about eighty men. So short was he of gunners that on his own vessel he had to point the guns himself. The British under Carleton, had a ship, two schooners, a radeau, a gondola, twenty gunboats and some long boats, manned by seven hundred sailors, and a large number of heavy guns handled by a detachment from the royal artillery. The fighting that followed was magnificent, but hardly war. The Americans fought bravely, but had no chance. What was left of their boats were finally run ashore and set afire with colors flying, while the men posted themselves on the bank and protected the colors from the enemy until all were consumed.

4. In 1777 volunteered for thirty days in Captain William Morse's Company of Colonel Faulkner's Regiment and marched to Saratoga to take part in the Burgoyne campaign. The arrangements for a surrender had been made before their arrival, but his regiment marched the prisoners back to Cambridge. Overstayed the time of his enlistment fifteen days.

5. In October, 1778, enlisted for two months in Captain Coles' Company of Colonel Jacobs' Regiment and marched to Fall River, where his company was stationed at a locality known as "Hogsneck," about three miles from the rest of the regiment. The British meanwhile lay on Rhode Island.

He came to Packersfield about 1797. Located on what is now known as the Yeardley place, near Long Pond. Died in Nelson, December 6, 1842, at the age of 86, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JAMES BANCROFT.

Born in Dunstable, Mass., October 26, 1745. A brother of Timothy Bancroft.

One of the earliest settlers of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson). His name appears in minutes of the meetings of proprietors in 1773 and very frequently thereafter, indicating that he was one of the most prominent citizens.

In 1774 had twenty acres cleared, fourteen more cut over and had erected a "board house," which he occupied with his family.

Probably one of the twenty-seven from Packersfield that on April 21, 1775, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched to Cambridge on the Lexington Alarm.

Signer of the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

Member of Committee of Safety, elected September 17, 1776, and as such arrested Breed Batchelder. His colleagues on the committee were Dr. Nathaniel Breed, Reuben Wellman, John Adams and Aaron Beal.

Recruiting officer in 1776.

Sergeant in a company commanded by Captain John Mellin from Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment, which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga on the Alarm in June, 1777.

Member of Captain James Lewis' Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Volunteers, which marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in Rhode Island in August, 1777. Service twenty-three days.

Chairman of committee chosen in 1777 to elect representative to General Court for Packersfield, Stoddard, Washington and Gilsum. His associates were Joel Wright, Captain Eleazer Twichell, John Adams and Richard Stoddard.

See anecdotes by General Griffin in his sketch of the Early History of the town.

Settled in the southeast part of the town where Joel Bancroft subsequently lived.

Died at Montpelier, Vt., March 2, 1832.

TIMOTHY BANCROFT.

Born in Dunstable, Mass., July 15, 1759, and living there at the outbreak of the war. A brother of James Bancroft.

June 4, 1833, made a pension declaration in which he says that in the month of July or August, 1778, he enlisted from Tyngsboro* in Captain Varnum's Company of Colonel Thatcher's Regiment, and marched to Providence, R. I., where he remained a few days and thence to Rhode Island (referring to the island of that name and not to the State) and crossed at Howland's Ferry, on to Rhode Island. That he "was in the battle under General Sullivan; retreated off the night after the battle and back to Providence; marched thence to the North River (Hudson) above New York City; from there into New Jersey to Rahway or Woodbridge; was stationed at Woodbridge during the winter, guarding the lines while the continental troops were in winter quarters." That the enemy lay at Amboy and came out from

*Part of old Dunstable.

there the night before he was dismissed, and there was a battle which resulted in the enemy being driven back. That he was dismissed at Woodbridge the first part of March, having been in the service about seven months.

He concludes by saying that at Rhode Island General Sullivan was in command and that "the French fleet was there."

Attached to his declaration was a certificate of Bancroft's reliability, executed by Rev. Gad Newell and Samuel Scripture, before Henry Melville, Justice of the Peace.

General Griffin wrote the following: "Timothy Bancroft was at the battle of Rhode Island August 29, 1778, in General Sullivan's command. As the brigade he was in was marching up to the attack, the British, who were stationed behind a stone wall, fell back to form in some different way. While they were performing the evolution the Americans rushed forward, seized the wall for a breastwork and poured in their fire. The British retreated from that point, and as they did so a battery near where he stood poured in grape shot and cannister, and seemed to cut them down by scores at a time. One of the gunners was particularly skillful and made every shot tell."

A reader of these sketches cannot fail to notice that a large proportion of the subjects of them went on "onto" Rhode Island in the latter part of July, 1778, and, in most cases, came back about a month later. Many of the muster rolls refer to the expedition as the "Rhode Island Alarm".

It was one of the three great "Alarms" that particularly interested the patriots of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, the first having been the "Lexington" Alarm at the outbreak of the war, and the second the "Bennington" Alarm in the summer of 1777. To all three they responded with great enthusiasm.

Under David Kimball, Richard Farwell and others, there has been described the far-reaching results of the Bennington-Saratoga Campaign in 1777. Not only was Burgoyne's Army wiped out of existence, but that event gained from France recognition of American Independence and promise of assistance.

In the summer of 1778 this promise materialized in the coming of a French fleet under Admiral D'Estaing, convoying 4,000 land troops. They lay off Virginia and gave no indication of their plans.

Suddenly a call went through New Hampshire and Massachusetts that General Sullivan, of New Hampshire, the most trusted of the New England generals, wanted militia in Rhode Island and that they must come in haste. The details of what was on foot were not disclosed, but it was rumored that great things were about to be attempted that might end the war.

The response was prompt and by August 10th Sullivan had about 9,000 men.

The detachments frequently took horses with them, what they could get, but never enough for all. The "ride and tie" system prevailed. As many as possible would "ride" a few miles, halt and "tie"; the remainder would follow till they reached the horses, when they, in turn, would ride. Thus they could proceed thirty or forty miles a day. (See Samuel Scripture.)

Washington and D'Estaing had formed the following plan: At Newport, on Rhode Island, were 6,000 British troops under General Pigot. Sullivan was to get what militia he could. Washington was to send 2,000 Continentals under Gen. Lafayette. The French fleet were to suddenly appear off Newport with their troops. The Americans were to land on the east side of

the island, the French on the west. The French fleet were to guard the harbor, and the 6,000 British were already as good as captured.

The French fleet appeared July 29th, but unfortunately Sullivan was not yet quite ready. On August 8th he had about 9,000 men, which he thought was enough, and on the 9th he occupied Butts Hill. The French troops were to land the following day, and a general assault was to follow. But the delay had been fatal. On August 9th a British fleet appeared off the harbor. On the 10th the French put out to fight them. Before they could begin a tornado arose, the greatest storm ever known in the region, and the two fleets were scattered all along the coast, some ships being driven as far as the Virginia Capes.

Sullivan's camp was destroyed, tents blown away, ammunition spoiled, horses and men drowned. (See Samuel Scripture, Jr.)

The British fleet put into New York for repairs. The French ships returned, one by one, in a crippled condition, till by August 20th they were all there again.

Meanwhile, Sullivan, having straightened matters out to some extent, had resumed operations and was on Rhode Island in a favorable position for an assault, and it was expected that the original plans would be carried out.

D'Estaing was willing, but his ship captains said "No"; they must first go to Boston to refit. The Americans begged and pleaded, but to Boston they went and with them the 4,000 French troops.

The British were prompt to see their opportunity, and on the 29th attacked Sullivan with great vigor. This was the Battle of "Rhode Island." Sullivan's troops fought well, and the immediate result was inconclusive. It was seen, however, that to remain where they were was perilous, so at night, keping up a great show of activity at the front, which completely deceived the enemy, he withdrew his entire army, with the artillery and supplies, to the mainland, in a most masterly manner. It much resembled the retirement from Long Island in 1776. (See John White.) The plan of campaign having broken down, the militia, full of disappointment, were allowed to go home and both sides were just where they started.

The plan had been a thoroughly good one, and one almost exactly similar was successful in 1781 and resulted in the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Bancroft came to Packersfield about 1788 and settled on the same farm as his brother James, afterwards known as Joel Bancroft's place. He died there November 15, 1848, in his ninetieth year, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JAMES BANKS.

Born September 19, 1751.

During the war lived in Oakham, Mass. His name appears on a list of men drafted from Westchester County Militia to go to Horse Neck under Colonel Converse, who did not join regiment; drafted to serve under Captain Abner How of Brookfield. Neither year nor length of service is given.

May 1, 1781, Simon Davis conveyed to James Banks "of Packersfield' land in the South West Quarter.

He lived on the "Chote" place, joining the Esek Phillips place, in Roxbury. Died there August 13, 1835.

THEODORE BARKER.

Born in Acton, Mass., May 25, 1761. Son of William Barker and brother of William S.

Appears on a list of men detached from Col. Brooks' regiment to relieve guards at Cambridge and served in a company commanded by Lieut. Heald, Jr., of Acton. The year is not given.

Also appears in a return of men enlisted into the Continental Army from Capt. Simon Hunt's Company, Col. Elezer Brooks' Regiment dated September 5, 1777; joined Capt. Munroe's Company of Colonel Timothy Bigelow's Regiment; enlistment for three years or during the war. In muster return dated February 3, 1778; reported discharged.

In 1779 moved to Packersfield with his father, and from that town enlisted again in the Continental Army, and served at West Point from June 28 to December 4th, 1780, in Capt. Isaac Frye's Company of Col. Alexander Scammel's Regiment, New Hampshire line.

In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 16, at page 106, is an interesting document entitled:

"Return of half pint of Rum & one pound Sugar. Issued to each of following six months men by Joseph Bass Cloathier & Commissary for the State of N. Hampshire at West Point, July, 1780."

Theodore Barker was one of those who signed. It is to be noted that the total amount of rum accounted for was out of proportion to the sugar. Evidently some did not care for sweetening.

Barker subsequently removed from Packersfield to Bradford, Vermont.

WILLIAM BARKER.

Born in Methuen, Mass., April 10, 1734; afterwards lived in Concord and Acton, Mass., and was a resident of the latter in 1775.

During the French and Indian War he appears to have served two enlistments. The first was as a Private in Captain Samuel Dakin's company, from September 15, 1755, to February 18, 1756, on the first expedition against Crown Point. In different records his residence is given as Acton and Concord. They are adjoining towns. Possibly he lived near the boundary line or had lived in one and worked in the other. His name next appears as a corporal in Captain Thomas Hartwell's company of Col. Bagley's Regiment, on the second expedition against Crown Point, with service from April 22, 1756, to November 27, 1756. His description is "Age 23 years; occupation, cordwainer; birthplace, Methuen; residence, Concord". He is reported as a "Volunteer" and as having joined from "Major Minot's Company of Colonel Buckmaster's militia regiment".

On the 19th day of April, 1775, at Concord he witnessed the beginning of the War for Independence.

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood
And fired the shot heard round the World."*

*From "The Concord Hymn", and inscribed on the monument. By Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Under Josiah Melville is an account of the events immediately preceding the expedition of the British from Boston. They began their march from Charleston about midnight, the force consisting of about 800 men under Lieut. Colonel Francis Smith, with Major John Pitcairn second in command. Their instructions were to proceed to Concord, destroy the military stores which had been collected there by the Provincial Congress, capture Col. James Barrett, who had charge of the stores, and John Hancock and Samuel Adams, members of the Committee of Safety, who were known to be in the neighborhood, and to do this, if possible, without bloodshed.

Col. Smith, who is described as a very fat, heavy, and, presumably, placid man, seems to have been mindful of the latter part of such orders. Pitcairn, however, was a hothead and precipitated trouble at Lexington, 12 miles from Boston. His nerves may have been tried by the fact that instead of being, as intended, a profound secret, the march had hardly begun before, by the firing of guns and the ringing of bells it was announced to all the surrounding country.

Paul Revere reached Lexington with the news about one o'clock, A. M. The alarm was circulated from farm to farm and a considerable number of Captain John Parker's company of Minutemen soon gathered. Messengers were sent toward Boston and some returned with reports that they could find nothing, so the assembly was dismissed. Some who lived near went home and others went to the tavern. About half past four Thaddeus Bowman rode up to Parker with the startling announcement that the British were only about a hundred rods away. The drum was beat and the minute men hastened out and gathered around their captain on the Common, between the tavern and the meeting house. Parker told those who were not equipped to go into the meeting house and furnish themselves from the public magazine, and a number did so. Before they could return the advance party under Major Pitcairn came out of the darkness at the other end of the common and advanced almost on a run toward the Americans, Pitcairn on horseback in the lead.

One of the minutemen afterwards stated that he counted his companions and there were "thirty-eight and no more". Others were hastening across the fields and perhaps 50 or 60 were there before the firing began.

"Stand your ground!" exclaimed Parker; "don't fire unless fired upon. But if they want to have a war let it begin here!"

Pitcairn galloped up to within about six rods and shouted "Lay down your arms, you damned rebels and disperse!"

Captain Parker, seeing the hopelessness of armed resistance, gave an order to disperse and not to fire. The men started to go when Pitcairn roared "Damn you, why don't you lay down your arms?"

No answer came back and Pitcairn, furious with passion, turned and gave an order to "Fire!" His men hesitated, and he repeated "Fire, damn you, fire!"

A few shots followed, all going over the heads of the Americans. Seeing that his men did not aim to kill he gave his command for the third time "G—d damn you, fire *at* them!"

A crash of musketry followed and, when the smoke rolled away, in the faint light of the coming daybreak, eight were seen to be dead and more than that number seriously wounded.

A few scattered shots followed in reply, given without orders, and doing little or no damage, beyond wounding Pitcairn's horse.

Col. Smith then came up with the main body and the march proceeded to Concord, six miles further, which was reached about seven o'clock.

Few people were in the village. Most of the women and children had fled in terror, while many of the men were still engaged in hiding the stores, and the rest were with their companies gathered on a neighboring hill. Pitcairn entered Wright's tavern and called for rum, into which he plunged his finger to stir the sweetening. Evidently he was considerably agitated for it is reported that his hand shook so that he spilled a portion of the contents of the glass. The houses were ransacked but little of importance found. About 60 barrels of flour were rolled into the road and knocked open. About 500 pounds of musket balls were thrown into the pond, the liberty pole cut down, some barrels of wooden spoons and trenchers burned and minor mischief perpetrated.

The provincial congress afterwards made an estimate that the value of private property destroyed in Concord was 274 pounds sterling.

The Court House was set on fire, but Mrs. Martha Moulten, a lady of seventy-one, who had remained behind when the younger people fled, gave Pitcairn such a tongue lashing that he ordered it extinguished.

Meanwhile Col. Smith dispatched six companies, under Captain Lawrence Parsons, to the North Bridge on the Concord River, about three-quarters of a mile from the village. There the force was divided, half of it guarding the bridge, while Parsons, with the remainder, crossed over and proceeded two miles further on the Acton road to the house of Colonel Barrett (see Josiah Melville).

The Concord minutemen had fallen back before the British advance and were now about a quarter of a mile beyond the bridge on a little hill called "Punkatasset." Here they began to be joined by minutemen hastening in from the adjoining towns—Acton, Lincoln, Bedford, Sudbury and Carlisle—the most coming from Acton, which was nearest. There was little organization. Most of the men came as individuals or in small squads.

"Swift as their summons came they left
The plow mid furrow standing still;
The half-ground corn grist in the mill,
The spade in earth, the axe in cleft.

They went where duty seemed to call;
They scarcely asked the reason why;
They only knew they could but die,
And death was not the worst of all!"*

Col. James Barrett called a council of war, the first in the American Revolution, and the leaders gathered about him.

Among the early arrivals was William Barker.

Distant towns that responded to the Lexington alarm subsequently filed their muster rolls and received pay from the State. Lexington, Concord and Acton filed no rolls, so we have nothing but tradition for information as to their organizations. As a matter of fact in these towns practically all able bodied men turned out.

*From "Lexington", by John Greenleaf Whittier.

Acton had certainly two, and perhaps three, organizations of either militia or minutemen, but their size and composition is now unknown.

Francis Faulkner had been captain of one of them and his descendants tell the following story of how the alarm reached him:

"He resided in South Acton. His son Francis, Jr., was lying awake and listening to the clatter of a horse's feet drawing nearer and nearer. Suddenly he leaped from his bed and ran to his father's room adjoining and exclaimed:

"'Father, there's a horse coming on the full run, and he's bringing news!'

"His father had heard the horseman also, for he was partly dressed, with gun in hand. Across the bridge and up to the house came the messenger.

"'Rouse your minutemen, Mr. Faulkner, the British are marching on Lexington and Concord.' And away he rode to spread the news.

"Faulkner, without completing his dress, fired his gun three times as fast as he could load, that being the preconcerted signal. Very quickly a neighbor repeated it, and the boy, still listening, heard a repetition many times, each farther away. Thus was Acton aroused."

Faulkner had just been promoted Major, so he turned the command of his company over to Lieutenant Simon Hunt. His men quickly gathered at Faulkner's house and with them came many women to help as they might. Fires were built in the door yard, kettles hung, and a dinner for the soldiers soon cooked. Some of the older boys were designated to follow on and carry it in saddle bags, with instructions to keep to the fields if they found the British occupying the highways.

Hunt's company reached the North Bridge just as the firing began.

Captain Isaac Davis' Acton Company were a few minutes ahead of them. The family tradition is that William Barker was a member and marched with Davis' company.

In 1835 Acton celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town. In connection with it the committee in charge tried to make a list of the members of Davis' company, April 19, 1775.

There was nothing to go by but tradition and the memory of two or three old men. Thirty-five names were obtained, which all admitted were not the full number. Among the thirty-five were "Francis Barker" and "Joseph Barker." There was no William, but inasmuch as the subject of this sketch, with his family, had left Acton about fifty-seven years before, it would not be surprising if he had been forgotten.

There is no reason to doubt the correctness of the tradition that adds him to the number.

In an oration, delivered at the 1835 celebration by Josiah Adams, a native of the town, it is said: "The rustic soldiers of Acton had never seen a British soldier in uniform and had only read of his appearance in arms. But they determined to see them. Many went directly to the bridge and there waited to join their companies, others repaired to the houses of their commanders and there formed for march."

About seven o'clock, as soon as about twenty men had gathered, Davis started and others joined all along the way, so he had at least forty or fifty. They marched two by two, with Francis Barker drummer, and Luther Blanchard fifer, in the lead, playing "The White Cockade."

Reaching the westerly part of Concord, they were warned that the British were at the house of Col. Barrett, so, instead of passing it, they went through the fields to the northward, pausing a few minutes to watch the destruction of the stores.

Arriving at Punkatasset hill, near the bridge, they halted and Davis joined the group about Col. Barrett.

Before them stood the soldiers guarding the bridge and beyond, over Concord, volumes of smoke began to rise. They thought the village was being destroyed.

It was decided to march to the town for its defense. Col. Barrett suggested to one of his Concord Captains that he lead, but the latter said he had rather not. He then turned to Davis and asked him if he was afraid to go. Davis promptly responded, "No, I am not; and there isn't a man in my company that is," and gave the command to march.

At the head with Davis was Major John Buttrick of Concord, then came the musicians, followed by Davis' Company, two by two, with guns at "trail." The others formed on behind.

It is related that the fifer and drummer again struck up "The White Cockade," which perhaps was the only music they knew, and to this singularly inappropriate tune the little army of farmers advanced.

The British crossed to the other side of the bridge and began to pull up the planks.

Major Buttrick, in a loud voice, ordered them to desist, whereupon they left the bridge and formed for action at its easterly end.

As the Americans approached, suddenly several shots were fired, most of which passed over their heads, but Blanchard, the fifer, was slightly wounded. Whereupon Major Buttrick turned and cried "Fire, for God's sake fire!"

The order was obeyed and one British private was killed, another wounded so seriously that he could not leave the field (their graves are there to this day) and a number of others were slightly wounded, including four officers.

Almost at the same moment came a volley, killing Captain Davis and Abner Hosmer and wounding several others.

Barker may have told the story something like this,—

> "'On the Kings own highway I may travel all day,
> And no man hath warrant to stop me', says he;
> 'I've no man that's afraid, and I'll march at their head,'
> Then he turned to the boys, 'Forward march! follow me!'
> And we marched as he said, and the Fifer he played
> The old 'White Cockade' and he played it right well.
> We saw Davis fall dead, but no man was afraid;
> That bridge we'd have had, though a thousand men fell."

The British at once withdrew to Concord village and the Americans followed at a distance. The companies from Col. Barrett's house returned and about noon all began retreating towards Boston.

By this time the minutemen had gathered in large numbers, and, acting mostly without organization, they hung, about the flanks like a swarm of hornets, inflicting heavy damage. (See Joshua Felt, Amos Bryant and John Burnap.)

---

*From "New England's Chevy Chase", by Edward Everett Hale.

"Over the hillsides the wild knell is tolling,
From their far hamlets the yeomanry come;
As through the storm-clouds the thunder-burst rolling,
Circles the beat of the mustering drum.
Fast on the soldier's path
Darken the waves of wrath,—
Long have they gathered and loud shall they fall;
Red glares the musket's flash,
Sharp pings the rifles crash,
Blazing and clanging from thicket and wall."*

Col. Smith's force would have been annihilated had they not been met at Lexington by a reinforcement of nearly a thousand men under Earl Percy.

Barker was then 41 years old, so we would hardly expect to find that he enlisted for any long period of field service, especially as both his sons, William Smith Barker and Theodore Barker, were in the army, the latter from Packersfield (see his record). However, in the Massachusetts Rolls we find the name of William Barker of Acton twice, viz.:

1. Private in Capt. Israel Heald's Company of Col. Eleazer Brooks' Regiment, which marched to Roxbury, March 4, 1776.

2. Private in Captain Hunt's Company of Colonel Eleazer Brooks' Regiment in return of men in camp at White Plains (probably in the State of New York). The date is not given.

In 1777 or 1778 Barker moved to New Hampshire and probably enlisted again there.

It may have been the Packersfield William who under Ensign David McQuaig marched from Litchfield for Ticonderoga on the alarm June 29, 1777, by order of Moses Nichols, Colonel of the Fifth Regiment of the New Hampshire Militia, as far as Keene, where they were ordered back by express from Colonel Bellows, being 70 miles.

At a special town meeting held in Packersfield, September 6, 1779, William Barker was elected Moderator, indicating that he must have been in town for a considerable time before then.

He settled on a farm about half a mile north of the present village, on the old road to Stoddard.

He seems to have won the confidence of his fellow citizens to an extraordinary degree, for, acording to the minutes of the regular Town meeting, March 27, 1780, some of the town officials elected were:

Moderator—William Barker.

Town Clerk—William Barker.

First Selectman—William Barker.

This is a record that can hardly be equalled in Nelson or any other town.

In 1782, when a church was organized, he was chosen one of the first deacons.

In 1782, 1783, he represented the town in the Legislature.

He was Selectman and Town Clerk many other times and otherwise active in town affairs. Worthy of special note is the fact that in 1793, with Samuel Griffin and Noah Hardy, he secured the services of Rev. Gad Newell, who continued in charge of the Nelson Church for nearly fifty years.

*From "Lexington", by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

Deacon Barker died December 28, 1821, in his eighty-eighth year, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

WILLIAM SMITH BARKER.

Born in Acton, Mass., July 8, 1759. Son of Deacon William Barker. Brother of Theodore Barker.

July 7, 1777, enlisted in Captain Abishai Brown's Company of Colonel John Robinson's Regiment and served five months and twenty-eight days.

August 1, 1778, enlisted in Captain Francis Brown's Company of Colonel McIntoshe's Regiment, General Lovell's Brigade. Discharged September 11, 1778. Service in Rhode Island.

October 31, 1782, was married by Rev. Jacob Foster in Packersfield to Lydia Morse. Lived in town several years thereafter.

NATHANIEL BARRETT.

Born May 8, 1742.

May 2, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Josiah Crosby's Company of Colonel James Reed's New Hampshire Regiment. Was at the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. Discharged at end of December.

Most of the company went from Amherst, which then included Milford and Mount Vernon. One of them was Solomon Kittredge.

February 27, 1781, enlisted for three years or for the war, and remained in active service until some time in 1783. At the time of his discharge he was in Captain Isaac Frye's company of the First New Hampshire Regiment, Continental line. For a time he was in the same company as Joel and Daniel Holt.

On this enlistment he was credited to Mason, N. H.

After Barrett's death his widow, Mercy, applied for a pension and for some reason failed to get it. After her death their only surviving child, John Barrett, of Stoddard, in the year 1852, revived the application, apparently in behalf of his mother's estate.

As a rule pension applications give very meagre details, but in this case there are several long affidavits which make up in quantity what perhaps they lack in quality. A few extracts may be interesting.

James Withee, of Mason, says he is 92 years old; that he knew Nathaniel Barrett in Mason when he was a boy and remembers that the father of this one was also called Nathaniel. "Barrett was in a company that went a great way off, south or west. I remember I have heard him and a Mr. Smith tell afterwards how they were crossing a river on logs, and both fell in and Barrett came very near drowning, but Smith kept above the water easily. It was a great way off that he and Smith fell into the water. I think that he (Barrett) was at the battle of Bunker Hill and I know he was in the army after that."

Jonathan Bachelder, of Mason, says he knew Nathaniel Barrett, having frequently seen him at Mason "with wooden bowls, trays, etc., which he had made at Nelson and brought from there upon his back," and that he had the reputation of having been a Revolutionary soldier.

Nathaniel Smith, of Mason, says he has repeatedly been at the house of Nathaniel Barrett in Nelson, and that it was very near Stoddard line. "He

had connections in Mason and I have often seen him in that town. He used often to bring articles which he had manufactured from wood at Nelson, and I remember I have seen a mortar which he had made from a knot for his sister, Mrs. Baldwin, now Mrs. Proctor." * * * "Have sat by the hour and heard his stories of the war. I recollect this: He was put upon guard one night at a fort from which the sentinel had been picked off every night for several nights. He put his great coat and hat upon a stake and kept one side of the usual place. He kept his gun cocked and at last there was a flash and a report from the bushes near. He fired where he saw the flash and the next morning a dead Indian was found on the spot. I remember to have heard him speak of being at the Bunker Hill Fight. I have heard him say that some time or other in the war he enlisted for three years. I have always understood that he lived at Mason previous to the war, and during or after the war that his home was at Milford or Amherst, after the war until he removed to Nelson."

Relief Barrett, of Stoddard, says that her maiden name was Relief Stevens. That she knew Nathaniel Barrett very well and often heard him "tell the story of his services in the War of the Revolution. That he used to say he was in Captain Frye's Company; that he served until the end of the war and boasted of it. That her father Daniel Stevens was also a soldier and he and Barrett used to recite often; that she used to listen to the tales and distinctly remembers."

Isaac White, of Nelson, says he knew Nathaniel and Mercy Barrett from his youth, and continues: "My father was a Revolutionary soldier and I have often heard him and Barrett talk of hardships, trials and services which they endured. I have heard Nathaniel Barrett say that he was in Captain Isaac Frye's Company and speak of being in other companies, but I do not remember the name of any officer except Captain Frye. I recollect of hearing Nathaniel Barrett tell a story as follows: That he was in service in war of the Revolution, when with a party of Americans he went onto what I think he called Hog Island, for the purpose of stealing from the British a lot of cattle and horses. That they collected horses and cattle in the night time and were about crossing Mystic River when they were alarmed by the British and in the hurry and confusion said Barrett was left a little behind and barely escaped by plunging into the river. He seized a colt by the tail, and by the grace of God and the efforts of the colt he was carried safely across and saved from the enemy. Barrett could not swim. I have heard him relate many other incidents."

John Wilson, of Stoddard, says he was a neighbor of Nathaniel and Mercy Barrett, and "he further declares that he has often heard the Old Gentleman Nathaniel repeat the story of his service and hardships in the war of the Revolution. That he cannot distinctly recollect the names of officers whom he named, but well remembers his saying that he served to the end of the war; that he never heard it doubted among the people. That said Nathaniel Barrett ever had the reputation of being a warrior and was so talked of among the boys."

Moses Day of Nelson says he knew Nathaniel and Mercy Barrett, and their son, John, and daughter, Hannah, and that there were three other sons

and one other daughter, all of whom are dead, except John Barrett of Stoddard.

Sybil Proctor of Mason, 86 years old, widow of Joseph Proctor of Mason, a Revolutionary soldier, and a sister of Nathaniel Barrett, says: "I had three brothers, Nathaniel, Reuben and Isaac, who were in the Revolutionary War. Nathaniel enlisted at the commencement of the war for a few months. Was at the battle of Bunker Hill. He was about this time living a part of the time at Mason and a part of the time at what is now Milford,—in Amherst then. He had married a girl by the name of Mercy Cummings, two or three years before the war. He married her in Massachusetts somewhere. I am very sure it was at Old Andover, but it might have been at Hatfield or Shrewsbury. He was at work in different places in Massachusetts. He came home not long after he was married.

In a few months after the Bunker Hill fight he came home; he came from the army and when he went away he was going to the army. I have also some recollection that when he started for Cambridge at first, he started with my older brothers from Mason, and that afterwards he started with a company from Amherst.

I remember also very distinctly conversations that I have heard him have with a Dr. Gray, who lived in this town after the war, about a service that they were upon in Ohio during the war. Our army had got nearly starved out and the captains of the different companies picked some men to go and to find something to eat, and Nathaniel was taken with others. They had to cross a large river,—had to carry their guns ready to fire much of the way, fearing the Indians. They found some cattle, and when they were driving them to camp and had come to the river it had begun to rain. It was just at night and they did not dare to cross. They had to lay on their guns all night to keep them dry, and in the morning they drove the cattle across and forded the river themselves, carrying their guns as high above their heads as they could to keep them dry. They got the cattle to the army.

I have often heard him speak of the smoky bread and horse meat they had to eat during the time mentioned above.

I have been at the house of my brother Nathaniel, both in Milford or Amherst, and at Nelson (Pecker Nelson as we used to call it). I think he lived in Milford three or four years after the war before he removed to Nelson.

He used to make wooden mortars, bowls, trays and other dishes. I have a mortar which he brought me from Nelson, made of a knot which he said would last me as long as I lived. He used to bring some on his back, almost every time he came to Mason. He took a hard way to get a living. I remember his coming once to Mason and having helped at reaping; he took the grain he received for pay upon his shoulders to Nelson.

The bulls ran down a hill, dragging him by a chain which got hitched some how onto his leg in such a way that a cord was torn out and he was lame always afterwards. His son Nathaniel helped him much.

He had a shock of Palsey when he was doing something to the roof of his house. They said it was hard work to get him down.

I think the names of his children were Nathaniel, John, Phineas, Hannah and Nabby. I don't remember the names of the two who died young."

General Griffin, in his sketch of the early history of the town, tells another interesting story of Barrett's trip from Peterboro, with the quarter of beef.

He died September 13, 1826, and was buried at Nelson in the cemetery of the Town Common. His grave stone states that his age was 84 years 5 months and 5 days.

SAMUEL BASSETT.

Born in Norton, Mass., March 1st, 1754. In 1775, was living at Keene, N. H. According to his pension declaration, dated October 7th, 1833, confirmed by the New Hampshire Rolls, his record was as follows, viz:

1. Marched from Keene to Cambridge on the Lexington Alarm, April, 1775.

2. About April 23rd, 1775, enlisted as fifer for eight months in Captain Jeremiah Stiles' Company of Colonel John Stark's Regiment. Soon after the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775, at which he is said to have been slightly wounded, he was transferred to Colonel Paul Dudley Sargeant's Regiment, where he served out the rest of his time and was discharged at Cambridge, December 31, 1775.

3. May 7, 1777, enlisted from Keene, N. H., in Captain Davis Howlet's Company of Colonel Bellow's Regiment. Marched to Mount Independence near Fort Ticonderoga. Was stationed there until the Continental troops arrived. Discharged June 17, 1777. Enlisted as ordinary private, but acted as fifer.

May possibly also have been the Samuel Bassett appearing in a Roll dated September 22, 1776, of Captain John Houghton's Company in Colonel Baldwin's Regiment, destined for New York. Length of service not shown.

Came to Packersfield about 1787, and resided at the foot of "Bassett Hill," in what is now Roxbury. Was living there at time of census of 1790, and for several years thereafter.

Died in Keene, N. H., November 8, 1834.

AARON BEAL.

Born probably in Natick, Mass., April 3, 1741.

One of the earliest settlers of Monadnock No. 6, coming not later than 1772. His name appears on a petition for a special meeting of "proprietors," which was held June 10, 1773.

In 1774 had 12 acres cleared, 15 more cut over and had erected a "pole house," which he occupied with his family.

In April, 1776, signed the "Association Test," and at a Town Meeting held September 17, 1776, was chosen a member of the "Committee of Safety."

May 6, 1776, was a member of Captain Josiah Brown's Company from Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Militia that marched to Ticonderoga to reinforce the Continental Army at that place. In service 38 days.

In the same year was elected a Lieutenant and is given that title in the minutes of a Town Meeting held August 5, 1777, at which he and "Lieutenant" Abijah Brown were chosen town constables.

He lived on the old road running from Corban Farwell's to Mrs. Houghton's on a farm that some fifty years ago was owned by James Chase.

Is said to have died in 1820.

WILLIAM BEAL.

One of the earliest settlers of Monadnock No. 6, coming prior to 1772.

In the record of a Town Meeting held September 13, 1774, there is mention of a road "laid out from William Beal's corn mill at the mouth of Pleasant Pond."

"Pleasant Pond" was afterwards named "Breed Pond," for Dr. Nathaniel Breed.

Beal signed the Association Test in April, 1776.

A William Beal and also a William Beal, Jr., appear in the United States Census of Packersfield in 1790.

HENRY BEMIS.

Born in Weston, Mass., January 28, 1750, or '51. One of the early settlers of Monadnock No. 6 prior to 1773.

One of the town officers of Packersfield elected at first town meeting March 15, 1774. He then had three acres cleared, two more cut over and a "pole" house.

Probably one of the twenty-seven men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield in response to the Lexington Alarm.

Enlisted April 21, 1775, for eight months in Captain Jeremiah Stiles' Company of Colonel Paul Dudley Sergeant's Regiment. Was at Bunker Hill June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Signer of the "Association Test" in Packersfield April, 1776.

In Captain Josiah Parker's Company raised out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that joined the Northern Army at Ticonderoga in July, 1776.

In Captain James Lewis' Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army at Rhode Island in August, 1778. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

Lived on the Seth Kingsbury place in what is now Roxbury.

Died in Littleton, N. H., June 24, 1833.

DAVID BEARD.

Born August 6, 1746.

Sergeant in Captain Cadwallader Ford, Jr.'s Company of Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's Regiment, which marched from Wilmington, Mass., to Concord on the Alarm of April 19, 1775; service twenty-one days; reported as belonging to "Train Band" from March 9, 1775, to June 30, 1775; also shown on receipt for wages dated May 6, 1776, given to Captain Ford; also in list of men who performed tours of service in the Crown Point Expedition in July, 1776; also in Captain Ford's Company of Colonel Eleazer Brooks' Regiment of Guards; enlisted November 5, 1777; rolls made up to April 3, 1778; at Fort No. 2, Cambridge, guarding "troops of convention," *i. e.,* Burgoyne's surrendered army; also shown in muster rolls for December, 1777, and January, 1778.

Came to Packersfield about 1778.

General Griffin in his reminiscences wrote this of him: "David Beard was at the battle of Concord. * * * About the time of the breaking out of the war a proposition was made to the inhabitants by the British to return to their allegiance on certain conditions. Their agent who visited this town

was a Mr. Griswold, of Keene, and a meeting was called to consider the proposition. A speech was made by Mr. Beard, in which he denounced the whole scheme, saying to the agent, 'Pen and ink can't draw the conditions that we would sign.'"

This must have occurred a little later than the General suggests, but there is no reason to doubt the substantial truth of the story. Several such pacification efforts were made, the most important and probably the one referred to, being in the latter part of 1778.

Died, probably in Nelson, in 1836.

BENJAMIN BIGELOW.

Almost certainly one of the twenty-seven men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, on April 21, 1775, marched from Packersfield for Cambridge on the Lexington Alarm.

Enlisted in April, 1775, for eight months in Captain Abijah Wyman's Company in Colonel William Prescott's Regiment. At the Battle of Bunker Hill, fighting at the "redoubt," wounded and taken prisoner. Died soon after in Boston.

See "New Hampshire men at Bunker Hill," by George C. Gilman, Manchester, N. H., 1899.

JONATHAN BLODGETT.

Born March 6, 1756. Son of Jonathan, who during the war, lived in Jaffrey, N. H.

In Captain Joseph Parker's Company raised out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that joined the Northern Army at Ticonderoga. Mustered and paid July 18, 1776.

In Captain Salmon Stone's Company in Colonel Nicoll's Regiment, Stark's Brigade, raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment of New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale, Colonel, which Company marched from Rindge in said State and joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater. From July 21 to September 26, 1777. At battle of Bennington August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

In Captain Samuel Twitchell's Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Volunteers, which marched from New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in Rhode Island in August, 1778, August 10th to August 28th.

General Griffin says that he was in Packersfield as early as 1777, and "lived on the place afterwards owned by Hills Scripture, near the Reuben Tarbox place, and afterwards between the road leading to Gilman Griffin's and the one to Philip Atwood's."

He seems to have been considerable of a wanderer, and is reported to have lived in a number of other towns, among them Jaffrey, N. H.; Rockingham, Vt., and Bethel, Maine. The place last named is the one to which Absalom Farwell and Eleazer Twitchell emigrated.

SALMON BLODGETT.

Born in Lexington, Mass., April 21st, 1766. Son of Josiah Blodgett, who in 1755 had been a soldier in the French and Indian War.

Hayward's History of Hancock, page 351, says that Salmon came to Hancock from Sunderland, Mass., with his father in 1786, and that at the age of fifteen he had enlisted in the Continental Army; was at one time a member of Washington's lifeguards, "and when he carried dispatches for the General he was on his return treated with wine."

Mr. Hayward further says that Blodgett, after moving to Dublin, thence to New York, to Weston, Vt., and Acworth, N. H., finally came to Nelson, where he died.

The only Salmon Blodgett, whose name appears in the Massachusetts Rolls, now on file, enlisted April 1, 1781, for three years, "Age, 16 years; stature, 5 ft. 3 in.; complexion, light; hair, light; eyes, blue; occupation, laborer; residence, Woburn." He was assigned to Captain Benjamin Pike's Company of Colonel Nixon's, afterwards Colonel Calvin Smith's Regiment, Sixth Massachusetts Continental Line.

This is probably applicable. (See Hudson's History of Lexington, vol. 2, page 38.) Sixteen was the legal age of enlistment, but that did not prevent many who were only fourteen or fifteen getting in by saying they were sixteen. (See David Kimball, Samuel Scripture, Jr., and Thomas K. Breed.) As a matter of fact, Young Blodgett lacked three weeks of being fifteen when he enlisted.

JOHN BOYNTON.

Probably Fifer, in Captain Elisha Mack's Company in Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment, of General Stark's Brigade, which company marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Northern Continental Army at Saratoga, September 22, 1777. Service, 2 months.

Quite likely much more service.

Living in Packersfield prior to 1785. First settled on the farm now owned by Dr. E. N. Hardy. Said to have been a blacksmith.

Died in Nelson, December 29, 1807, and buried in cemetery on Town Common.

ALLEN BREED.

Born in Marblehead, Mass., July 14, 1759. Son of Josiah and nephew of Dr. Nathaniel Breed.

The following account of him is extracted from "A Record of the Descendants of Allen Breed who came to America from England in 1630", by J. Howard Breed.

"At the age of sixteen he enlisted in the army and advanced to the rank of Lieutenant. During his boyhood in Marblehead the town was on fire with patriotic enthusiasm. When the exciting times of 1775 came, his father enlisted at Lynn, his uncle Nathaniel and his cousin John at Nelson, N. H. He went to New Ipswich and when his cousin Allen enlisted, he also joined the same company and continued to serve in the army for the next five years. Between the 1st and 15th of November, 1775, he entered the service for six weeks under the command of Captain Eleazer Cummings, and marched directly to Cambridge, Mass., where they were stationed in Fort No. 2. After remaining one week they were taken by order of General Putnam to Lechmore Point to commence the erection of another fort. At the close of the first day's "tatoo" the British, who were occupying Fox Hill Fort in

Boston, cannonaded them with shot and shell, but did not prevent the completion of the fort. * * * About the first of February, 1776, he reenlisted for two months at the camp in Cambridge under Captain Goodale, marching for Prospect Hill, and was present at Coble Hill, one mile below, when the Americans "bursted" a brass mortar, captured by the ship *Manley Piere*. The morning following the evacuation of Boston, about March, 1776, he obtained permission to visit friends in that place. * * *

In July, 1776, he volunteered at New Ipswich under Capt. Joseph Parker for five months; was mustered in at Jeffrey and rendezvoused at Charlestown No. 4. At the latter place the company crossed the Connecticut river on their way to Skeenboro, N. Y., and Fort Independence at Ticonderoga, N. Y., where they were employed in getting out lumber in the mountain to build row galleys for service on Lake Champlain. * * *

From April to July, 1777, the town of New Ipswich was in a constant state of alarm. The rapid advance of Gen. Burgoyne aroused the fears of the Colonists, and calls for more troops were frequently made. Early in July Capt. Stephen Parker enlisted a large company. The first two names on the payroll are the cousins Allen Breed and Allen Breed, Jr. * * * This company was in General Stark's Brigade. Allen Breed was with others detailed to assist in driving cattle to Stillwater, N. Y., for the subsistence of the army assembling to oppose Burgoyne. They returned just in time to be with their company in the battle of Bennington. During the night of the battle they assisted in guarding the Hessian prisoners who were confined in the Bennington Meeting House. * * * Soon after this the company marched to Saratoga where Breed remained until the expiration of his enlistment.

In June, 1780, he was one of six taken by a Corporal from New Ipswich to Winchester, where he was mustered in. He then marched to Litchfield, Conn.; next to West Point, N. Y., to be attached to the Company of Capt. Cherry in the Regiment of Col. Courtland, and the division under the command of General La Fayette. His regiment with two others was sent to a place called Herrington, N. J., where an expedition was organized under Gen. La Fayette to capture Staten Island. Near Elizabeth, N. J., the boats were so much injured as to cause their return to the tents at Herrington. Breed was soon after stationed at Fort Lee on the Hudson River, from which place he was detailed with others to Bergen, N. J., to drive off the cattle, horses, etc., so as to prevent them from falling into the hands of the British who occupied New York on the opposite shore. * * *

He was very thin and spare, and was a carpenter by trade.

As soon as he was discharged, married in July, 1781, Lucy Taylor, and came to Packersfield, where his first child Josiah was born, April 25, 1782. Between then and 1802, ten other children followed.

Located on the "Noah Robbins" place in the west part of the town.

With Samuel Cummings and Archelus Wilson built the "New" Meeting House on the Town Common.

Was active in public matters as long as he lived in town.

About 1806, went to Fultonville, Montgomery County, New York, to live with his daughter Mehitabel. Later he removed to Stafford, N. Y., where he died April 2, 1842.

JOHN BREED.

Born at Eastham, Mass., October 15, 1757; son of Dr. Nathaniel Breed; brother of Thomas K. and Nathaniel, Jr.; came to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) with his father about 1767.

"The Descendants of Allen Breed" states that young John, "volunteered on the 20th day of April, 1775, in the afternoon, under Lieutenant Abijah Brown, and marched from Packersfield to Lexington, and thence to Boston." His father, Dr. Breed, went with the party.

May 20th, 1775, he enlisted for eight months in Capt. Ezra Town's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. In the Muster Roll in the office of the Secretary of State at Boston his description is "Born, Lynn; age, 19; place of abode, Packersfield; occupation, farmer; height, 5 ft. 3 in.; complexion, fair; color of eyes, light."

He was at the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.

For an account of it, see Samuel Griffin who was in the same company.

Breed had his hat knocked off by a musket ball, and another struck his "cartouch" box, passing through between the covering and the wood. After the retreat he was detailed from the company, and went under Lieut. Josiah Brown with the wounded to Medford. He remained with the regiment until January 1, 1776.

In June, 1776, went to Cambridge and enlisted for five months under Capt. Warren of Cambridge, Mass., in Col. Wheelock's Mass. Regiment, and marched to Ticonderoga, N. Y., remaining until his term expired, engaged in scouting, fortifying and skirmishing.

In September, 1777, volunteered and marched to Saratoga, and Fort Edward; was engaged mostly in scouting parties and was on the opposite side of the river when Burgoyne surrendered.

July 7, 1780, enlisted for six months under Captain Benjamin Spaulding, Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment, and marched to the North River and was stationed at Fishkill, and at West Point. While Gen. Benedict Arnold was in command he was detailed, one of sixteen, to guard six hundred head of cattle at Robinson's farm, and at Camp Pond, during which time 150 British horsemen advanced to capture the guard and cattle, but the Yankees were too quick for them, and saved themselves and the cattle.

His brother Thomas K. Breed, Noah Hardy and other Packersfield men, were in the same company.

Afterwards settled on the "Abijah Brown" place on the hill, near the old lead mine east of the place first settled by Dr. Breed, later known as the residence of Horatio Osgood and now owned by Mr. Charles H. Osgood.

Is said to have removed, in 1828, to "Sandy Creek."

DR. NATHANIEL BREED.

Born in Lynn, Mass., July 25, 1727.

Came to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield, and Nelson) in 1767, and was the first permanent settler within present limits of town. First located on what was later known as the Horatio Osgood place (which he sold to Samuel Cummings in 1782), and later on what is now known as the Wellington Seaver place, near the outlet of what was then known as "Pleasant Pond," subsequently called, after him, "Breed" Pond.

His daughter Abigail, born June 16, 1769, was the first child baptized in town, and his daughter Anne, born January 30, 1773, was the first person baptized in the first meeting house at the first service held therein in July, 1773.

In 1774 had thirty acres cleared, ten more cut over and had erected a "Double Pole House."

Was the most respected and influential citizen in town for many years.

At a town meeting held April 18, 1775, the day before Lexington, was elected Town Clerk and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, with Eleazer Twitchell, and Joseph Stanhope as colleagues, and also a member of the "Committee of Safety to put the resolves of the American Congress in force," his colleagues being Amos Skinner and Lieut. Abijah Brown.

Was one of the 27 men who marched from Packersfield to Cambridge April 21, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm. His son John was another of the party.

May 9, 1775, was chosen delegate to the Provincial Congress at Exeter, his colleague being Eleazer Twitchell.

June 27, 1775, was commissioned Surgeon's Mate in Colonel James Reed's New Hampshire Regiment before Boston. Heilman's Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army states he was also Surgeon's Mate of the Second New Hampshire Continental line from January 1 to December 31, 1776, and later Surgeon of New Hampshire State Troops and Militia.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

March 4, 1778, elected Delegate to Convention at Concord "for forming a Plan of Government."

Represented Packersfield and Stoddard in the Fourth General Court held at Exeter, December 16, 1778, to November 19, 1779.

Represented Packersfield and Stoddard in the Fifth General Court held at Exeter, December 15, 1779, to November 11, 1780.

Died in Nelson, November 5th, 1810, aged 83 years, and was buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

NATHANIEL BREED, Jr.

Born in Eastham, Mass., June 4th, 1753. Came to Monadnock No. 6 with his father in 1767.

In 1774 had 10 acres cleared, 4 cut over. Then living with his father.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

Enlisted from Packersfield May 2, 1782, in the Continental Army for three years or during the war.

Said to have removed to some place in New York.

THOMAS K. BREED.

Born in Sudbury, Mass., April 10, 1761. The son of Dr. Nathaniel and brother of John and Nathaniel, Jr. Came to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) with his father in 1767.

From his pension declaration, verified the 22nd day of February, 1833, confirmed by the New Hampshire rolls, it appears that he rendered service as follows:

1. In the latter part of November, 1775, when only fourteen years of age, went to Winter Hill, outside of Boston, and there enlisted for one year in Captain Ezra Town's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. His brother John was a member of the same company, and his father was at the same time Surgeon's Mate of the Regiment.

Boston was captured March 17, 1776, and most of the troops marched for New York. Breed was, however, detailed to the hospital to assist his father and remained there until April 10, 1776, when he hired a substitute, John Varnum of Dracut.

2. He was a member of the company commanded by Captain John Mellin, which marched from Fitzwilliam and adjacent towns, to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga in June, 1777. The expedition turned back on account of the evacuation of the fort.

3. To quote his own words, "In July, 1777, the town of Packersfield being required to furnish a certain number of men for the army, he volunteered, and immediately after went to New Marlborough, where they mustered, and he was put into a company under Captain Salmon Stone. From thence they marched to Manchester, Vermont, where he was attached to Colonel Nichols' Regiment. From Manchester they marched to Bennington, where they were attached to General Stark's brigade. Was in the battle at that place August 16, 1777. There he served out the remainder of his enlistment and was regularly discharged."

Service from July 21st to September 25th.

4. Finally, was a member of Captain Benjamin Spaulding's Company in Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire that joined the Continental Army at West Point. From July 7 to October 21, 1780.

Died in Antrim, N. H., February 2, 1849.

ISAAC BREWER.

Believed to be the Isaac Brewer who was born in Tyringham, Berkshire County, Mass., August 1, 1762, son of Joseph and Jane, and who,——

May 15, 1778, enlisted from Tyringham in Captain Enoch Noble's Company of Colonel Ezra Wood's Regiment. Discharged February 7, 1779. Service eight months and twenty-eight days at Peekskill, New York.

Living in Packersfield at the time of the first U. S. Census in 1790. Said to have located on the farm now occupied by Hon. T. W. Barker.

JONAS BRIGHAM.

Born in Sudbury, Mass., May 22, 1758.

Enlisted from Sudbury, August 17, 1777, in Captain Jonathan Rice's Company of Colonel Samuel Bullard's Regiment. Service three months and twenty-four days with the Northern Army.

Came to Packersfield about 1789 and settled on farm south of the Blood place in Harrisville. Removed to Dublin.

GEORGE BRINTNALL.

Moderator of Town Meeting in Packersfield, April 4, 1777, which adopted Presentment against Major Breed Batchelder.

Enlisted from Packersfield for Continental service May 13, 1777. Hired by Colonel Samuel Folsom and mustered and paid by Eliphalet Giddings, Muster Master. (See New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 14, page 662). The regiment in which he served this enlistment is not given.

Member of Committee of Safety elected August 5, 1777, his colleagues being Captain Eleazer Twitchell, Seth Cobb, Shadrach Hill, and Jonathan Drury.

March 1, 1778, enlisted for one year in Captain Benjamin Stone's Company, afterwards Captain McGregore's Company, Third New Hampshire Continental Line, and was discharged March 1, 1779.

Probably the George Brintnall, who as Corporal, responded to the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, from Mansfield, Mass., in Captain Samuel White's Company of Colonel John Daggett's Regiment, and December 10, 1776, enlisted from Mansfield under Lieut. Ebenezer Brintnall. Service about three months; nature not stated.

ABIJAH BROWN.

One of the earliest settlers. Said to come from Bedford, Mass. Located east of Dr. Nathaniel Breed, near the old lead mine. See anecdotes by General Griffin in his sketch of the Early History of the town.

In 1774 had 24 acres cleared, 20 more cut over and a "board house" which was occupied by himself and family, his wife being a daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Breed.

Lieutenant of Militia in 1774.

January 20, 1775, chosen member of the Committee on Correspondence, his colleagues being John LeBourveau and Major Breed Batchelder.

Member of Committee of Safety, chosen April 18, 1775, the day before Lexington, his colleagues being Amos Skinner and Dr. Nathaniel Breed.

April 21, 1775, in command of party of twenty-seven men that marched from Packersfield to Cambridge on the Lexington Alarm.

September 25, 1775, elected member of the Committee on Inspection, his colleagues being Eleazer Twitchell, Benjamin Nurse, John French and Amos Skinner.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

Member of Captain Jonathan Brockway's Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that, on the Ticonderoga Alarm marched July 13, 1777, as far as Otter Creek, Vt., where they met the American Army retreating.

JOHN BROWN.

Elected Town Clerk and First Selectman of Packersfield, August 5, 1777.

Recruited from Packersfield in June, 1778, by Colonel Enoch Hale, out of his Regiment of Militia, for Continental service in Rhode Island. Enlisted June 18, 1778. Discharged January 4, 1779. In Captain Samuel Dearborn's Company of Colonel Stephen Peabody's Regiment.

Probably performed other service but the name is so common that identity is doubtful where residence is not given in the record.

AMOS BRYANT.

Born in Reading, Mass., September 17, 1756. Brother of James Bryant, third in descent from Abraham Bryant, one of the earliest settlers of Reading.

In Captain John Bacheller's Company of Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's Regiment of Minute Men that marched from Reading on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, and engaged the retreating British at Merriam's Corner. (See John Burnap.)

In Bryant's pension declaration, among other things, he says:

"In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, in the month of April, I enlisted as a private soldier in the Continental Army in the United States of America, at Cambridge, in the province of Massachusetts, under Capt. Bachelder, in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Bridge, for eight months, and served my time and received an honorable discharge.

I returned home, stayed about a month, and enlisted again for one year, under Captain William Grant(?) in a regiment commanded by Col. John Greaton, and in that marched to New York and from that to Ticonderoga, and from that down the river to (illegible) and so, from place to place, until my time was out again. I was honorably discharged at Morristown in the Jerseys.

After which in the year 1778 in the month of June, I again enlisted for nine months into the Continental Army, in the Massachusetts line, and joined the army at Peekskill, in New York, in General McDougal's Brigade, and served my time and again received an honorable discharge.

I was in the battle of Concord at the commencement of the war."

Came to Packersfield probably about 1800. Settled on the north side of Tolman Pond on the farm now owned by Wayland P. Tolman. His sons Francis and Palmer subsequently carried on the tannery business there.

Died in Nelson, August 12, 1833, at the age of 77, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JAMES BRYANT.

Born in Reading, Mass., October 25, 1748. A brother of Amos Bryant. They were in the third generation from Abraham Bryant, one of the first settlers of Reading.

In Captain John Bacheller's Company of Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's Regiment of Minute Men that marched from Reading on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, and engaged the retreating British at Merriam's corner. Service 11 days. (See John Burnap and Amos Bryant.)

Probably did other service, which cannot with certainty be identified, as there were apparently others with the same name.

Came to Packersfield in 1785 or 1786. Located on the farm where Chauncey Barker subsequently lived. Taxed in town as late as 1813.

SOLOMON BUCKMINSTER.

Born February 19, 1754.

At the time of the war living in Rutland, Mass.

In Captain David Bent's Company of Colonel Nathan Sparhawk's Regiment, detached August 20, 1777, and marched from Rutland to Bennington on an Alarm. Probably other service.

Settled in Packersfield in 1787.

When the town of Roxbury was incorporated in 1812, was Chairman of the first Board of Selectmen, and subsequently chosen its first representative to the legislature.

JOHN BURNAP.

Born in Reading, Mass., June 23, 1744; married there December 24, 1767, Mary Hayward; and living there in 1775.

A John Burnap, probably he, was a member of Captain John Bacheller's Company of Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's Regiment, that marched from Reading on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, and engaged the enemy retreating from Concord. (See William Barker.)

Amos Bryant and his brother James Bryant were in the same company.

The British left Concord at noon and for about a mile were unmolested. Then, reaching "Merriam's Corner," they encountered the Reading minutemen and there began the real *battle* of the 19th of April.

The Reverend Edmund Foster, of Reading, a fiery young man, went along with his parishioners, in Captain Bacheler's Company, and afterwards, in a letter to Lemuel Shattuck of Concord, he told what happened,—"A little before we came to Merriam's Hill, we discovered the enemy's flank guard of about eighty or a hundred men, who, on the retreat from Concord, kept the height of land, the main body being in the road. The British troops and the Americans at that time were equally distant from Merriam's Corner. About twenty rods short of that place the Americans made a halt. The British marched down the hill with very slow but steady step, without music or a word being spoken that could be heard. Silence reigned on both sides. As soon as the British gained the main road and passed a small bridge near the corner, they faced about suddenly and fired a volley of musketry upon us. They overshot, and no one to my knowledge was injured by the fire. The fire was immediately returned by the Americans, and two British soldiers fell dead at a little distance from each other in the road near the brook. The battle now began, and was carried on with little or no military discipline or order on the part of the Americans, during the remainder of the day. Each sought his own place and opportunity to attack and annoy the enemy from behind trees, rocks, fences and buildings, as seemed convenient. We saw a wood at a distance which appeared to be on or near the road, where the enemy must pass. Many leaped over the walls and made for that wood. We arrived just in time to meet the enemy. There was on the opposite side of the road a young growth of wood filled with Americans. The enemy were now completely between two fires, renewed and briskly kept up. They ordered out a flank guard on the left to dislodge the Americans from their posts behind the trees; but they only became better marks to be shot at. A short but sharp contest ensued, in which the enemy received more deadly injury than at any other place from Concord to Charleston."

Burnap seems to have followed them all the way, for on April 24th at Cambridge, John Burnap of Reading enlisted for eight months in Captain John Bacheller's Company of Colonel Ebenezer Bridge's Regiment. His name appears on Rolls dated August 1st, and September 25th, and doubtless he served out his term.

The rolls, both in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, show other military service by a John Burnap, but as the residence is not given the identity is uncertain. There were many Burnaps in Reading, and some evidence that there were two Johns.

Coming to Packersfield soon after the war, he settled north of the present village on the farm now owned by Mr. Patrick. Died in Nelson, May 23, 1815, and is buried in the cemetery on the old Town Common.

JOHN BUXTON.

Born in Reading, Mass., in 1734. At the time of the war living in Wilton, N. H.

April 23, 1775, enlisted as Corporal for eight months in Captain Benjamin Mann's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. At Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. In the same company were Samuel Scripture, Sr., Samuel Scripture, Jr., John Stroud, and Edmund Taylor. Paid by the State of New Hampshire for a gun lost in the engagement.

Came to Packersfield about 1791. A Town Officer in 1792. Settled in North part near Stoddard line on place now owned by Mr. Chester L. Towne.

Died there in 1821. His descendants remained in town for two or three generations.

PETER CHANDLER.

Born in Andover, Mass., Mar. 25. 1755. His pension declaration on file in Washington reads in part as follows:

"On this 1st day of May, A. D. 1818, personally before me Levi Woodbury, one of the Justices of the Superior Court of Judicature in said State, appears PETER CHANDLER, of Nelson in said State, aged sixty-three years, who, being duly sworn, in order to obtain the benefits of the late act of Congress, entitled an Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, made on oath the following declarations—

1. That at Andover, Mass., in A. D. 1775, he enlisted into Captain Ames' Company in Col. Frye's' Regiment and served eight months;

2. At the end of said term he reenlisted into Captain Benton's Company in Col. Sargent's Regiment, in the Massachusetts Line, for one year and served out said term;

3. Again June 4th, 1777, he reenlisted for three years into Captain Frye's Company in Col. Scammel's Regiment, in the New Hampshire Line, and there faithfully served out his time against the common enemy and was discharged at West Point."

A supporting affidavit of Ebenezer Chandler enumerates Peter's various periods of service and concludes with the words—"making in the whole *four years and eight months,* which said Chandler served in the Army of the United States, *I was further knowing to said Chandler receiving a wound through the body by a musket ball in the year 1776.*"

In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 16, Revolutionary Rolls, his name appears at pages 15, 25, 186 and 211. It is shown that during his last enlistment his Captain was Isaac Frye, his Colonel Alexander Scammel, his Regiment the Third N. H. Continental Line and the period of service from

June 4, 1777, to May 30, 1780. Probably at "Saratoga," "Valley Forge" and "Monmouth" and in the "Sullivan Expedition."

Came to Packersfield in 1787 and located on the Shores of Spoonwood Pand, frequently called "Chandler" Pond. (See General Griffin's annecdotes regarding him.)

Died in Nelson, July 14, 1819, and is buried in the Cemetery on the Town Common.

AMOS CHILD.

Born in Waltham, Mass., in 1753.

Was one of the earliest settlers locating east of Breed Pond.

Signed the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

Died in Packersfield.

BUNKER CLARK.

Came to Packersfield about 1775 from New Ipswich.

Signed the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

In April, 1777, enlisted from Packersfield in Captain Isaac Farwell's Company of Colonel Hale's Regiment, New Hampshire Continental line "for three years or for the war."

New Ipswich claimed that he should properly be counted in her quota and the matter was referred to the New Hampshire Committee of Safety, which decided in favor of Packersfield.

In the minutes of a Town Meeting held in Packersfield November 27, 1778, is this item. "Voted to provide ten pounds for Bunker Clark's wife as a gift."

After the war is said to have removed to Farmington, Maine.

SETH COBB.

Born in Medway, Mass., March 6, 1743. Brother of Stephen Cobb.

Marched from Temple, New Hampshire, to Cambridge, on the Lexington Alarm. Absent 12 days.

In December, 1775, served 2 months with the army before Boston (Blood's History of Temple, N. H., page 103).

In Captain John Mellin's Company which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent, June 28, 1777, to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga.

Come to Packersfield not later than 1777. At town meeting held August 5, 1777, elected member of Committee of Safety, the other members being Capt. Eleazer Twitchell, George Brintnall, Shadrach Hill, and Jonathan Drury.

About 1780 removed to Dublin, N. H., where he died January 8, 1799.

STEPHEN COBB.

Born in Holliston, Mass., April 15, 1747. Brother of Seth Cobb.

Marched from Temple, N. H. to Cambridge, on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775. Absent 11 days.

In December, 1775, served two months with army before Boston (Blood's History of Temple, page 103).

Signed the Association Test in Temple in 1776.

Came to Packersfield in 1777.

Elected member of Committee of Safety at town meeting held March 29, 1779, the other members being John Adams and Captain Stephen Parker.

Said to have lived on the Joseph Felt place, next north of the Burnap place.

Died in Packersfield, June 19, 1814.

SAMUEL CUMMINGS.

Born in Westford, Mass., November 18, 1742. During the war living in New Ipswich, N. H.

In April, 1775, enlisted from New Ipswich for eight months in Captain John Nutting's Company of Colonel William Prescott's Regiment. At Bunker Hill in the redoubt, June 17, 1775. Martin and Joshua Lawrence in the same company. (See Samuel Griffin).

Sergeant in Captain William Humphrey's Company of Colonel Wingate's Regiment in the Northern Army, Continental service, 1776.

Under date of August 20, 1782, Dr. Nathaniel Breed deeded to Samuel Cummings of New Ipswich the farm that the Doctor had first settled and then lived on, later known as the Horatio Osgood place, and now owned by Mr. Charles H. Osgood.

At a town meeting held March 27, 1786, it was "voted that Samuel Cummings, David Beard and Allen Breed be chosen a committee to draft a plan for the Meeting House and make an allotment of the Stuff."

At a Town Meeting held March 20, 1787, it was "voted that Lieutenant Samuel Cummings, Lieutenant Archelus Wilson and Allen Breed be a committee to procure the under hands to work on the Meeting House."

In other records relating to the Meeting House he was the one referred to as the "Master Workman." (See also Archelus Wilson and Allen Breed.)

About 1789 removed to Cornish, N. H., where he died January 16, 1826.

The printed genealogy of the Cummings family suggests that he was in Packersfield earlier than 1782 and later than 1789. Probably this was only temporarily in connection with building operations.

ISAAC DAVIS.

Born in "Old" Rutland, Mass., February 28, 1756, and living there at the outbreak of the war.

On August 10, 1832, made a pension declaration in part as follows:

"1st. In 1775 entered the service in December for two months, Captain Reed's Company, Lieut. Evilith (?). Stationed at Roxbury and Brookline, Mass., guarding boats. Joined no regiment.

"2nd. Served three months. Capt. Hussy (?),* Lieut. Ruggles' Company. Col. Sparhawk's Regiment, stationed at Rutland, guarding prisoners. Cannot state the year precisely.

"3rd. In 1777 enlisted for two months, Capt. William Henry and Lieut. McLellan's Company, Col. Whitney's Regiment. Served on R. Island at a place called Boston Neck, guarding the coast. Was a fifer.

"4th. In 1777 enlisted and went to Half Moon, Capt. John Boynton, Lieut. Cutler. Marched from Half Moon to Bennington at the time of the battle.

* This and other names of places in the record are hard to decipher.

After the battle of Bennington stood on guard to guard the prisoners in the meeting house.

"5th. In 1778 enlisted again for six months. Capt. Jackson's Co. of Col. Wade's Regiment. Marched to Tiverton (?) in R. Island. Then transferred from Col. Wade's Regt. to Col. Jacobs' Regt. Went onto the Island under Gen. Sullivan. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

"6th. In 1780 enlisted again for six months, Capt. Ephraem Hartwell's Co. Stationed at Rutland guarding prisoners. Sergeant's duty.

"7th. Enlisted again for three months. Capt. Stevens' (?) Co. Went first to West Point. Was detached out of the company to go to Fish Kill to the laboratory and there acted as quartermaster under the Commissary. Was at Fish Kill at the time Andre was hung. Saw Gen. Washington and Gen. La Fayette when they came up from Withersfield to Fish Kill and stayed over night there the morning that Arnold escaped.

"Have a distinct recollection of all the officers I served under and of terms of service, but am very likely to be mistaken as to the different years."

He came to Packersfield in 1782 and settled within present limits of Roxbury, on what is now known as the Calvin Davis place. Died there September 13, 1836.

JONAS DAVIS.

In Captain David Bent's Company of Colonel Nathan Sparhawk's Regiment of Minute Men that marched from Rutland, Mass., to Cambridge, April 20, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm.

May 5, 1777, enlisted in Captain William Henry's Company of Colonel Josiah Whitney's Regiment and served in Rhode Island two months and seven days.

Living in Packersfield from 1785 to 1801 and perhaps longer.

BENJAMIN DAY.

Born in Attleboro, Mass., April 28, 1720. Father of Noah and Peletiah.

At the outbreak of the war living in Mansfield, Mass.

Though over military age, as a Minute Man marched from Mansfield to Roxbury on the Lexington Alarm April 19, 1775, in Captain Samuel White's Company of Colonel John Daggett's Regiment.

Came to Packersfield about 1777 (joining his son Noah, who preceded him), and was on the Board of Selectmen there in 1778.

Had purchased property in Monadnock No. 6 several years before. In the Proprietors' records of apparently 1774, "Improvements in the Northeast Quarter," is this: "Benj. Day, 5 acres cleared, 7 chopt over—House—Talks of coming."

Settled on the farm now owned by Rev. E. W. Phillips and built the house still standing which is the oldest one in town.

Died in Packersfield April 3, 1786.

NOAH DAY.

Born in Mansfield, Mass., about 1755. Son of Benjamin Day. Half-brother of Lieut. Peletiah Day.

Came to Packersfield about 1774. Lived on what was subsequently known as the Sewell Day place.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

Sergeant in Captain Salmon Stone's Company in Col. Nichols' Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment of New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale, Colonel, which company marched from Rindge and joined the Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater July 21 to August 16, 1777.

Removed to Chesterfield, N. H.

PELETIAH DAY.

Born in Norton, Mass., November 5th, 1744. Son of Benjamin Day. Half-brother of Noah.

Corporal in Captain Benjamin Morey's Company of Colonel Daggett's Regiment of Minute Men which marched on the Alarm of April 19, 1775.

April 27, 1775, enlisted, probably for eight months, in Captain Moses Knap's Company of Colonel Joseph Read's Regiment; appointed Sergeant.

March 13, 1776, commissioned Second Lieutenant in Capt. Silas Cobb's Company of Colonel Jacob French's Regiment.

In Packersfield prior to 1780.

At a town meeting held October 28, 1782, the following committee was appointed to consider a proposed State Constitution, viz. Lieut. Peletiah Day, Chairman; Mr. Amos Child, Mr. Thomas Kiddar, Capt. Stephen Parker and William Barker.

Lieut. Day was very influential in public affairs for many years.

Died in Nelson May 25, 1814, and buried in cemetery on the Town Common.

SAMUEL DERBY.

Born in Concord, Mass., September 6, 1757. According to his pension declaration, verified August 9, 1832, his service was as follows:

1. In June, 1777, enlisted from Groton, Mass., in Captain Aaron Jewett's Company of Colonel Job Cushing's Regt. Massachusetts Troops, and marched for Ticonderoga. Before they arrived the place was evacuated. Then marched to Bennington, where his company was attached to Colonel "Bellows'" Regiment. Proceeded to Half Moon, N. Y., where an express was received from General Stark asking for reinforcements. Marched back to Bennington, but the battle there was over before they arrived. Then went to Stillwater. Was in the two battles variously known as "Stillwater" or "Saratoga" (see David Kimball), resulting in the capture of Burgoyne's Army. After this marched to Kingsbridge (now part of New York City), and was discharged at some place between there and White Plains in December.

2. In 1778 enlisted from Concord in Captain Anderson's Company of Col. Howe's Regiment in Rhode Island. Built a fort at Butts Hill. This was when the French Fleet was in the harbor with French troops aboard. (See Timothy Bancroft.) Length of service about five months.

3. In 1780 enlisted from Concord in Captain Hale's Company and marched to Newport, R. I. Was there when the British left the place. General Gates was in command. After Benedict Arnold fled from West Point (see Noah

Hardy). General Gates was sent for and Derby helped man the boat that took him to Providence. Discharged at Newport after about three months' service.

After the war moved from Concord to Lincoln, Mass., thence to Littleton, Mass., and finally to Nelson in the fall of 1812. Settled on what is now called Derby Hill, west of Breed Pond.

In his pension application he was vouched for by Col. Harrington of Keene, and Amos Stoddard, and Noah Hardy of Nelson.

Died March 13, 1839, and is buried in Nelson in the cemetery on the old Town Common.

JONATHAN DRURY.

Supposed to have been the Jonathan Drury who signed the Association Test in Temple, N. H., in 1776.

Member of the Committee of Safety in Packersfield chosen August 5, 1777, his colleagues being Capt. Eleazer Twitchell, George Brintnall, Seth Cobb and Shadrach Hill.

ROBERT EAMES.

Born in Rutland, Mass., in 1749. Son of Aaron and Ann.

Not later than 1773 removed to Sudbury, Mass., where he lived during the war.

A member of Captain John Nixon's Company of Minute Men organized at Sudbury March, 1775. The record book, still in existence, shows that he was present at drills on March 13, 20, 27, and April 3, 10 and 17. Ezra Smith and Uriah Wheeler were in the same company.

Member of Captain John Nixon's Company of Colonel Abijah Pierce's Regiment of Minute Men that marched on the Alarm of April 19, 1775, reached Concord Bridge just as the firing began and probably also engaged the British on their retreat to Boston at Merriam's Corner about 12:30 P. M. (See Ezra Smith and Uriah Wheeler.)

In 1777 Corporal in Captain Isaac Wood's detachment of Continental guards in charge of stores at Sudbury. Service of 3 months and 26 days.

In same detachment on said duty from January 2 to April 2, 1778.

Also in similar service at Sudbury and Boston almost or quite continuously thereafter till October 6, 1780; the latter part of the time as Sergeant in Major Nathaniel Heath's detachment.

August 14, 1783, married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Adams, of Lincoln, Mass., and soon after removed to Packersfield, where he lived the rest of his life. Settled on the "Cushing" place in what is now Roxbury. Died July 2, 1828. Buried in Roxbury Cemetery.

He was the father of Joseph Eames (or Ames), the celebrated portrait painter.

JOHN EASTABROOK.

In Monadnock No. 6 as early as 1773.
Signer of the "Association Test" April, 1776.
In town several years afterwards.

SAMUEL EVERETT.

One of the earliest settlers. In Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) about 1771.

Settled, according to General Griffin, "where the little orchard is under the hill east of the Poland place."

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

SOLOMON FAIRLEY.

In 1777 Colonel Enoch Hale made a return to the Committee of Safety of soldiers enlisted from various towns for the Continental Army. The following is an extract:—

"Packersfield returned five men in all. Bunker Clark, Capt. Farwell's Company, Col. Hale's Regt. and William Farley in Capt. Ellis' Company, Col. Scammel's Regt. Michael Troy (?) in Capt. Hill's Company, Col. Patterson's Regt. and Solomon Fairley in Capt. Wells' Company, Col. Shepard's Regt.—the two last in the Bay State—and John McRian in Capt. Smith's Company, belonging to the Train."

See N. H. State Papers, Vol. 14, page 576.

TIMOTHY FARLEY.

Signed the Association Test in Packersfield April, 1776.

WILLIAM FARLEY.

May 25, 1777, enlisted from Packersfield for three years in Captain William Ellis' Company of Colonel Alexander Scammel's Regiment, New Hampshire Continental Line. Discharged May 30, 1780. During this period the regiment was in the battles of Saratoga, the encampment at Valley Forge, the Sullivan expedition, etc.

ABSALOM FARWELL.

Baptized in Marblehead, Mass., September 21, 1741. Came from Marblehead to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson). Brother of John and Richard Farwell.

Was probably one of the twenty-seven who on the morning of April 21, 1775, marched from Packersfield in response to the Lexington alarm.

In April, 1776, signed the "Association Test."

In July, 1777, at the time of the Burgoyne Invasion, with his brother Richard, enlisted in Captain Salmon Stone's Company in Colonel Nichols' Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment of New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale Colonel, which company marched from Rindge, July 21, 1777, and joined the Northern Army at Bennington and Stillwater. Took a prominent part in the Battle of Bennington, August 16th, and was discharged September 25, 1777. (See Richard Farwell and David Kimball.)

In 1792 removed to Bethel, Maine, where he died March 18, 1819.

JOHN FARWELL.

Born probably in England in 1739. Settled first in Marblehead, Mass., from whence he came to Monadnock No. 6 (subsequently Packersfield and

Nelson) in 1772, and located where afterwards lived his grandson, Darius Farwell on a farm now owned by Mr. Arthur C. Childs. Richard and Absalom Farwell were John's brothers and came a little later.

In 1774 he had six acres cleared, three more cut over and had erected a "board house," which he occupied with his family.

Probably was one of the 27 men who marched from Packersfield April 21, 1775, in response to the Lexington alarm.

In April, 1776, signed the Association Test.

After the Americans were driven out of Canada (see Ebenezer Tolman and Solomon Kittredge) they fell back to Fort Ticonderoga, between Lake Champlain and Lake George, which commanded the approach to the Hudson River by the great water route to the south.

In June, 1777, as the Burgoyne Invasion came up Champlain and approached Ticonderoga, messengers were sent through western New England summoning reinforcements for the feeble garrison. The militia promptly responded. Farwell was one of those from Packersfield, going as a corporal in the company of John Mellin, which gathered at Fitzwilliam, and for the most part marched on June 28th, a few following on July 3d and July 6th.

Other members of the company were Lieut. Ebenezer Perry, Sergeant James Bancroft, John Morse, Stephen Twitchel, Thomas K. Breed, Joseph Stanhope, Seth Cobb and Benjamin Nurse.

Though making a forced march they could not arrive in time, for the fort was abandoned on July 6th. (See David Kimball.) Consequently they returned home after an absence of fourteen days. It appears from the muster roll in N. H. State Papers, Vol. 15, page 108, that Farwell travelled 135 miles.

Died in Nelson, November 21, 1820, and probably is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

RICHARD FARWELL.

Baptized in Marblehead, Mass., September 25, 1743. Brother of John and Absalom Farwell. Came from Marblehead to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson), one of the earliest settlers, and located on the farm now occupied by Mr. Oren L. Farwell, where he lived the rest of his life. Was a man of great size and a leading citizen. See General Griffin's anecdotes of him in his account of the early history of the town.)

Probably one of the 27 men who, under the command of Lieutenant Abijah Brown, marched on April 21st, 1775, in response to the Lexington Alarm.

In April, 1776, signed the "Association Test".

July 21, 1777, marched from Rindge in Captain Stone's company of Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment, General John Stark's Brigade, raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment of Militia, of which Enoch Hale was Colonel, which company joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater, took a distinguished part in the Bennington battle on August 16th, and was discharged on September 26th, 1777.

Others connected with Packersfield in the same company were Absalom Farwell, John French, John Stroud, Noah Day, Thomas K. Breed, Isaac Proctor, Jonathan Blodgett, Jonathan Jewett, David Averill and Joseph Mason.

New Hampshire men always took more satisfaction in recalling Bennington than any other event of the war, and with reason, for it was highly creditable to them.

Under David Kimball is given a general account of the Burgoyne invasion. When it was merely rumored detachments of militia had hastened to Ticonderoga and returned when the alarm proved false. Then when, the last of June, invasion actually took place, the farmers dropped hoe and scythe and marched again, most of them only to arrive too late and meet the patriot forces retreating. (See John Farwell.) Ticonderoga was occupied by the British early in July, and messengers brought alarming reports that the object of the expedition was to subjugate New England.

The Legislature was convened and held a session of three days. John Stark, the hero of Bunker Hill, was called from his farm to command the Second Brigade of Militia—the one in the Western part of the State nearest the enemy. Charlestown was appointed as the rendezvous, and detachments of volunteers began to pour in. Most of them were farmers who had seized their guns and started right in the midst of haying.

"March! March! March! from sunrise till it's dark.
And let no man straggle on the way!
March! March! March! as we follow Old John Stark,
For the old man needs us all today."*

The company in which the Farwells served were among the first arrivals. With them and a few others Stark pushed on to Manchester, Vt., leaving word for the rest to follow as rapidly as possible. On August 8th he proceeded to Bennington. On August 13th a British force of fifteen hundred Hessians and Tories and two hundred Indians, under command of Col. Baume, a Hessian officer, came into Cambridge, fourteen miles northwest of Bennington.

The Hessians were mercenary troops in the employment of England. They got their name from the fact that they came from Hesse, a part of Germany on the upper Rhine. They had been pressed into service by their rulers and then sold for a large price, of which they received nothing. While fine men physically and well equipped and disciplined and stimulated by tales that the Americans were cannibals and the like, they had no enthusiasm for the cause for which they were expected to fight. When the war was over many of them did not go back to Germany, but became highly respected American citizens. All this, however, did not prevent their being a very uncomfortable proposition at Bennington.

Stark, learning of their approach, sent out a part of Nichols' Regiment under Lieut. Colonel William Gregg, to secure some flour in the neighborhood of Cambridge, and followed with his whole force on August 14th. He soon met Gregg's men retreating before the Germans and Tories.

These Tories were Americans dressed like Stark's own men and undistinguishable till the patriots resorted to the expedient of putting corn husks in their hat bands. This was their entire "uniform".

Seeing Stark's force Baume halted, entrenched himself on advantageous ground and sent back for reinforcements. The entrenchments of the enemy

*From "The Marching Song of Stark's Men," by Edward Everett Hale.

were upon the bluffs on both sides of the Hoosac River within the State of New York.

It rained hard all day on the 15th, so Stark held his men in check.

On the 16th he approached the enemy's works and coming in sight of them he halted and made an address, short and to the point: "There's the enemy, boys. We must flog them or Molly Stark sleeps a widow this night."

"Each soldier there had left at home
A sweetheart, wife, or mother.
A blooming sister, or perchance,
A fair-haired, blue-eyed brother.
Each from a fireside came, and thoughts
Those simple words awoke
That nerved up every warrior's arm,
And guided every stroke."**

He then divided his force, which was only about half that to which it was opposed. Colonel Nichols with 200 men, probably including Stone's company, was sent by a circuitous route through the woods to gain the rear of the left wing of the enemy. Colonel Herrick with another small force was sent by another route to gain the rear of their center, while Colonels Hobart and Stickney were sent to get behind their right wing, south of the Hoosac. With the few left Stark slowly approached in front.

The detachments cheered as they started. Col. Baume, viewing the scene through a glass, hearing the noise and seeing the patriots disappear, thought they were running away from their leader.

Nichols was to give the signal. At precisely three o'clock the first shot from his men rang out. The others were ready and immediately the attack became general. The Hessians were brave enough, but they had not been trained for any such warfare as that, and soon fell into confusion. Whichever way they faced there was an enemy behind them, an enemy that crept up under the very muzzles of the cannon and shot the gunners and, though having no bayonets, swarmed over the entrenchments swinging their muskets like battle-axes.

"The ponderous clubs swept crashing
Through the bayonets round their feet.
As a woodman's axe-edge crashes
Through branches mailed in sleet.

"Shattering head and shoulder,
Splintering arm and thigh.
Hurling the red-coats earthward
Like bolts from the angry sky."*

Within about an hour Colonel Baume was mortally wounded, the majority of those who survived had surrendered, and Stark's men scattered to secure their prisoners and spoil, and incidentally to get something to eat, of which they were in great need.

Just then the trumpets of reinforcements under Col. Breyman were heard, giving unwelcome notice that a second battle was at hand.

**From "The Battle of Bennington," by Thomas P. Rodman.
*From "Bennington," by W. H. Babcock.

Almost simultaneously, however, the patriots had reinforcements themselves from a detachment of "Green Mountain Boys" under Col. Seth Warner.

The fight raged again until dark, the enemy gradually falling back for two miles, when they broke completely, abandoning their cannon and everything that would impede their flight, and escaping under cover of the darkness. One hour more of daylight and Breyman's forces would surely have been captured. "Molly" Stark did not sleep a widow that night.

Two hundred and seven of the enemy's dead were counted on the field, and seven hundred and fifty were taken prisoners, with four brass cannon and one thousand stand of arms.

The loss of the Americans was thirty killed and forty wounded. One of the killed was First Lieutenant Ebenezer Perry, of Packersfield.

The result was far-reaching. The loss at Bennington so crippled Burgoyne that it rendered his surrender at Saratoga inevitable, and the latter gained recognition of American Independence by France, without which it probably could not have been maintained.

"For a cycle was closed and rounded.
A Continent lost and won,
When Stark and his men went over
The earthworks at Bennington."*

General Griffin gives the following account of the battle: "At Bennington General Stark had defeated the British and taken 700 prisoners, and his men were scattered about, taking their dinner, when the British having been reinforced, attacked our troops and drove all before them. Stark's men fell into line as fast as possible and fought bravely, but the British were fast overpowering them when Warner came up with 500 Vermonters fresh for the fight.

Warner rode up to Stark and asked: "Where will you have us?" Says Stark: "For God's sake fall in and let us take breath." Warner's men deployed into line and poured in a terrific fire. Stark's wornout troops rallied behind them, and together they soon checked and finally routed the whole British force.

Richard and Absalom Farwell were together in the thickest of the fight. Richard, who knew no fear, was standing out completely exposed to the murderous fire, while his comrades were behind trees and rocks (the fight was in the woods). Absalom, seeing him thus exposed, called out to him: "Get behind a tree, Brother Richard, get behind a tree; they'll put your daylights out." But Richard continued to load and fire where he was. It was there that he said he saw Batchelder and fired at him. (See General Griffin's account of Batchelder.)

These Farwells were so prominent on account of their size and bravery that Stark knew them, and said that if he had a regiment of such men he could "drive the British into the Atlantic."

Washington, in one of his letters, referred to the militia that went against Burgoyne as "the best yeomanry in the country * * * supplied with provisions of their own carrying."

Richard Farwell died in Nelson November 4th, 1817, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

*From "Bennington," by W. H. Babcock.

ELIPHALET FELT.

Born in Dedham, Mass., September 24, 1754. His sister Sarah married Samuel Adams of Packersfield.

As Minute Man marched from Dedham on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, in Captain Robert Taft's Company.

In 1776 in Captain Samuel Felt's Company of Artillery. Probably other service.

Came to Packersfield about 1780. His eldest son, Charles, was born in that town October 17, 1780, and his second son, John, October 22, 1782. Elected Tythingman, March 6, 1781.

After a few years Felt removed to Rockingham, Vt., where he died November 18, 1833.

JONATHAN FELT.

Born probably in Lynn, Mass., April 8, 1753. Brother of Joshua, Joseph and Samuel.

Came to Packersfield prior to 1775. One of the town officers elected August 1, 1775.

Signer of the Association Test in Packersfield, April, 1776.

In Captain James Lewis' Company of Colonel Daniel Moor's Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers that marched from Marlboro and joined the Continental Army at Saratoga. Service from September 28 to October 24, 1777.

Settled on what was afterwards known as the "Fletcher place," on the old road to Stoddard near the town line.

Died there February 17, 1807, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOSEPH FELT.

Born in Saugus (Lynn), Mass., January 12, 1757. Brother of Joshua, Jonathan and Samuel.

His pension declaration, verified and supplemented by the Rolls in the office of the Secretary of State at Concord, N. H., shows the following enlistments, viz.:

1. May 4, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Ezra Town's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. Was in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775 (see account of the battle under Samuel Griffin, who was in the same company), and served out his full term, being stationed most of the time at Winter Hill. His description was: "Age, 18; stature, 5 ft. 4 in.; complexion, fair; eyes, gray; occupation, farmer; residence, New Ipswich."

2. Immediately on the expiration of his first term re-enlisted in the same company for one year and served till January, 1777.

3. In June, 1777, enlisted in Captain Josiah Brown's Company of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment, which marched from New Ipswich, N. H., June 29, 1777, to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga, and proceeded as far as No. 4 (Charlestown), where they were ordered back by an express from Colonel Bellows, and returned to Rindge on July 3rd. On the following day they

received orders to march again and went as far as Rutland, Vt., where they were met by the Army on retreat.

4. June 10, 1778, enlisted as Corporal in Captain Simon Marston's Company of Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen Peabody's Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire for Continental service in Rhode Island, and was discharged December 30, 1778.

Came to Packersfield prior to 1790, and died in Nelson August 9, 1842, at the age of 85, and is buried in the cemetery on the old Town Common.

The printed genealogy of the Felt family and "Lynn in the Revolution," by Howard K. Sanderson, both state that he was wounded in the thigh and taken prisoner at the capture of Fort Washington, November 15, 1776. (See Samuel Felt.) He was in the service at that time and there is a "Joseph Felt" on the list of prisoners, but from the fact that in his pension declaration he did not mention any such experience, some have doubted whether the man captured was this Joseph.

JOSHUA FELT.

In Captain David Parker's (First Lynn) Company of Minute Men, which marched on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, and engaged the British at Menotomy.

In "Lynn in the Revolution," compiled by Howard Kendall Sanderson, at page 272, is the following sketch of Joshua Felt: "Son of Aaron and Mary (Waitt) Felt. Was born in Saugus, June 21, 1751, his father having removed from Chelsea. He was married by Rev. Joseph Roby, January 16, 1774, to Hannah Stocker, daughter of Ephraim and Lydia (Newhall) Stocker, born October 2, 1752. * * * In Captain David Parker's Saugus Company in the fight at Menotomy, and was wounded by the British. His brother Joseph was shot in the thigh and taken prisoner the next year at Fort Washington. After the revolution Joshua removed to Packersfield, N. H., where all but one of his children were born. The names of his children were Mercy, Polly, Elijah and Ephraim. His brothers, Jonathan, Joseph, Peter and Samuel, all born in Lynn, were in the Revolution. He died in Westmoreland, N. H., about 1822, his wife having died before him, but it is not known where he is buried."

The same writer, at page 43, tells of the engagement when Felt received his wound. After describing how the Danvers and Lynn men were enclosed between the main body of the British and their flank guard, he continues:

"At this time they were near the home of Jason Russell and were using it as a shield. The Danvers men had improvised a defense from a huge pile of shingles and were busily firing at the troops in the road. Before they could escape seven of their number were killed—caught in a trap. Dr. Joseph Warren was near by and barely escaped with his life. Seeing the fate of the Danvers Minute Men, many of the Lynn boys rushed into the house and there Abednego Ramsdell, Daniel Townsend, William Flint and Thomas Hadley were killed, and Timothy Munroe, *Joshua Felt* and others wounded."

This part of the tragic story is told in part by Alonzo Lewis in the "History of Lynn": "Timothy Munroe was standing behind a house with Daniel Townsend, firing on the British troops as they were coming down the road

in their retreat to Boston. Townsend had just fired and exclaimed, 'There is another redcoat down,' when Munroe, looking around, saw, to his astonishment, that they were completely hemmed in by the flank guard of the British Army, which was coming down through the fields behind them. They immediately ran into the house and sought for the cellar, but no cellar was there. They looked for a closet, but there was none. All this time, which indeed was but a moment, the balls were pouring through the back windows, making havoc of the glass. Townsend leaped through the end window and immediately dropped dead. Munroe followed and ran for his life. He passed for a long distance between both parties, many of whom discharged their guns at him. As he passed the last soldier, who stopped to fire, he heard the redcoat exclaim, 'Damn the Yankee; he is bullet-proof. Let him go.' Mr. Munroe had one ball through his leg and thirty-two bullet holes through his clothes and hat. Even the metal buttons on his waistcoat were shot off."

SAMUEL FELT.

Born March 17, 1755. A brother of Jonathan, Joseph and Joshua.

In his pension declaration, confined to Continental service, as distinguished from that in the Militia, he says:

"I, Samuel Felt, of Nelson, in the County of Cheshire, and State of New Hampshire, husbandman, do make the following declaration, upon oath, that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, on the first of January, I enlisted as a private soldier in the Continental Army in the United States of America, at Cambridge, in the State of Massachusetts, for one year, under Capt. Vinton in said Vinton's Company, in Col. Sargent's Regiment, in the Massachusetts line, and continued there until the British left Boston, which, I think, was sometime in March following, when we marched into Boston, where we stayed about two weeks and from that to the Castle, where we stayed until sometime in June following, and then marched to New York, where we took possession of the fort called Horn's Hook, where we remained until Gen'l Washington retreated out of the City of New York, when we made a short stand at Kings Bridge, and from that to White Plains, where we had a battle with the British, and from that to Pensylvania, and from that to Trenton, and was in Trenton battle, and from that back to Pensylvania where I was discharged the last day of December."

The evacuation of Boston, and the battles of White Plains, and of Trenton, were all events of great importance.

After the affair of the 19th of April there had gathered around Boston about 16,000 men. They were patriots, but could hardly be called soldiers, much less an army. Many hundreds had no firearms, and those who possessed something or other in that line usually had no bayonets and little or no ammunition.

The British officers were accustomed to refer to them as a "set of dirty ragmuffins" and the description was not inappropriate.

Gradually some order was brought out of chaos. Regiments were organized, enlisted for eight months, and the so-called siege of Boston began. Bunker Hill, on June 17th, used up a large part of their powder. In August they had less than enough to give each man nine rounds. Their few little cannon

were a joke, absolutely useless. The people at home clamored for a battle, while they were not equipped for a half-hour skirmish.

Late in the year a young man named Henry Knox, who had kept a little bookstore in Boston and used his spare time in reading all the works he could collect on artillery practice, escaped out of the city and came to Washington with a proposition that he be sent to Fort Ticonderoga, which Ethan Allen had captured by a surprise attack the previous May, and be allowed to bring down some cannon from there. He was given a small party of men and set out. In December he came back triumphantly dragging with oxen on sleds thirteen brass cannon, twenty-six iron cannon, fourteen mortars, two Howitzers, twenty-three hundred pounds of lead and a barrel of flints.

There was great rejoicing in camp, and the Congress at once made Knox a Brigadier-General of Artillery.

Unfortunately, the fact that there was no powder, with which to load these new weapons rather impaired their usefulness, and things dragged on as before.

In February there was bitter cold weather which froze the water on the edge of the bay, and Washington favored trying a rush over the ice, but the other officers would not stand for it.

Finally some powder was obtained—not much, but sufficient for a "bluff."

Dorchester Heights commanded the city and harbor on the south just as did Bunker Hill and Breed Hill on the north. Howe, the British General, might have taken and fortified them at any time, but as a matter of fact he had not done it, and this gave Washington his opportunity.

On the night of March 4th, in the midst of a great storm, the patriots suddenly began to use the precious powder in a bombardment all along the line. They did not always use it wisely, for by overloading they promptly burst three of the largest mortars on which they had placed great reliance. All this actively was a mere cover.

In the midst of the noise and confusion, General Thomas and two thousand men, with wagons carrying bales of hay, made a long detour, so the sound of the wheels on the frozen ground could not be heard, and ascended Dorchester Heights. The ground was too hard to dig entrenchments, but, as instructed, they piled up the hay.

Howe soon discovered them and sent Earl Percy with a large force to dislodge them. The latter thought it better to wait until the storm was over. By that time the Americans had brought up cannon and, remembering Bunker Hill, he did not dare to make the attempt.

It was expected that the enemy would attack somewhere, and there was great difference of opinion as to what should be done to prepare for it. The next ten days were a period of great anxiety, but finally, on March 17th, without any battle at all, the British sailed away.

Washington soon after marched most of his army to New York. Felt's regiment followed later, but his narrative indicates that it was not engaged in the disastrous battle of "Long Island", or "Brooklyn Heights" as it was sometimes called, on August 27th. (See John White.)

Forced out of New York City and driven north, the battle of Harlem Heights was fought, September 16 (see John White), and then there were a series of rear guard actions. One of which, to which Felt alludes, was at Kings Bridge, where they left Manhattan Island for the mainland.

Washington entrenched his men on every hill as soon as he reached it, and thus his movement was a line of detached and entrenched camps, which it was hoped could be taken by superior numbers of the British only with heavy loss. There being hardly any horses, the baggage and artillery had to be dragged by hand. The men would drag part of it forward and then go back and drag the rest.

The Americans reached the vicinity of White Plains, about twenty-five miles from New York, on October 28th, and there occurred a very spirited, though not extensive action at Chatterton Hill, which is commonly known as the battle of White Plains. Possibly Felt's regiment was not actively engaged, but it was certainly able to witness the whole affair. This was the end of the pursuit. Washington fell back a few miles further to the almost unassailable heights at North Castle and Howe returned to New York.

Fort Washington, on the bluff overlooking the Hudson, had been part of the American line of defense at Harlem Heights. After the rest of the line fell back it was useless and should have been abandoned. The mistake was made of leaving an isolated garrison of 3,000 men there which, on November 15th, was obliged to surrender. This forced the evacuation of Fort Lee on the opposite side of the Hudson, and news came of the defeat of Arnold on Lake Champlain. (See Thomas Baker.) Thus disaster piled on disaster, and Washington's reputation, even among his friends, sank to the lowest point it ever reached in his life.

He concluded that the next move of the British would either be up the Hudson to capture West Point, and the line of communication with Lake Champlain, or southward to capture Philadelphia. To check the latter, with a body of about four thousand men, which soon shrunk to thirty-three hundred, he crossed the Hudson and marched into New Jersey.

Being pursued by Lord Cornwallis, he proceeded southward till on December 2nd his main body reached Trenton on the Delaware.

At that moment the American cause seemed at about the lowest ebb. Its supporters were represented, as one historian has expressed it, "by only thirty-three hundred wandering, half-clothed guerillas." The time of enlistment of most of these would expire on January 1st, less than a month away. The patriot congress had fled from Philadelphia. Thousands of people in New Jersey who formerly had been supposed to be in sympathy were now taking the British oath of allegiance. The end appeared to be at hand.

The pursuing army, increased till it was twice the size of the American force, came up on December 8th. Washington crossed the river at midnight just ahead of it, having first secured all the boats along the shores for a distance of seventy miles. (See Amos Richardson.)

The British thinking their prey secure, and that there was no need of haste, waited for the river to freeze over. They were scattered about at various places nearby. Thus, at Bordentown on the Delaware there were upwards of fifteen hundred, another considerable body at Princeton, a third at New Brunswick, while at Trenton there were fifteen hundred Hessians under Col. Rall, an able officer.

Washington planned to make a desperate surprise attack on them all. He divided his force into three divisions; one was to go against Bordentown, another was to cross the river in front of Trenton and station itself on

the other side of Assunpink Creek, directly south of the village, to prevent the Bordentown and Trenton garrisons joining forces, while he, with the third division, was to cross considerably above Trenton and make the main attack. If the three were successful they were to unite and push on against Princeton and New Brunswick.

"The winter night is cold and drear
Along the river's sullen flow;
The cruel frost is camping here—
The air has living blades of snow,
Look! pushing from the icy strand,
With ensigns freezing in the air,
There sails a small but mighty band,
Across the dangerous Delaware."*

They started Christmas night at 11 o'clock. The weather was very cold and a northeast snowstorm was raging. The men suffered intensely; many were frostbitten and two froze to death.

The river was full of floating ice, which formed a barrier too great to be surmounted by the first two divisions. Washington's party finally got across, but far more time had been consumed than expected. It had been intended to surprise the Hessian Camp in the darkness, but it was eight o'clock and broad daylight before it was approached. It had become evident that there could be no co-operation from the other divisions, but there was nothing to do but go on. The village was surrounded and the lines closed in.

The Hessians, from Col. Rall to the lowest private, had been celebrating Christmas, and most of them were aroused from heavy sleep by the sound of guns. They failed utterly to get together. Rall was killed and of the others practically all the survivors laid down their arms.

Says Professor Fisher in his "Struggle for American Independence":—

"The Hessian prisoners were sent to Philadelphia to be paraded in triumph for the sake of animating the patriots and depressing the loyalists. It was a curious scene as they marched up Chestnut Street by Independence Hall, patriot women screaming at them and threatening to choke them and others trying to give them bread. They were warmly clad in good uniforms, but the patriot troops who guarded them had on summer clothes and some of them were marching barefooted on that cold winter day. * * *

"It was a wonderful success for the patriots; it continued the war when it had almost ceased and the patriot cause was about to expire; it reanimated the whole patriot party; it convinced Europeans of the ability of Washington to seize an opportunity; it was a momentous turning point in the Revolution; a typical incident of American promptness, energy and good luck."

Thus ended a campaign which Felt so succinctly sums up: "From that to Pennsylvania and from that to Trenton, and was in Trenton battle and from that back to Pennsylvania"—or "Pensilvany", to copy the declaration exactly.

According to the New Hampshire Rolls, Felt seems to have also been in the field at least twice with the New Hampshire militia, viz:

*From "Across the Delaware," by Will Carleton.

In Captain Jonathan Brockway's Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that marched on the 6th and 13th of July, 1777, on the alarm at Ticonderoga. Marched on the 8th of July from Washington to Cavendish, distance 40 miles, and then received orders to return back. Then received orders on the 13th to march the second time for Ticonderoga. Marched from Washington to Otter Creek. Distance 60 miles. There met the army retreating and returned back. Also

In Captain Robert Fletcher's Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Volunteers, which regiment marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army on Rhode Island August 10 to August 28, 1788.

These enlistments were probably from Temple, N. H., but about 1778 he came to Packersfield, where he remained the rest of his life. He died there June 26, 1827, at the age of seventy-one, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common. His wife Naomi survived him till 1851, reaching the age of 92.

WILLIAM FOLLETT.

Born in 1742. The son of Isaac Follett.

During the French and Indian War, served at least two enlistments, viz:—

1. In Captain Lemuel Bent's Company from April 30, to November 27, 1759, in the expedition against Crown Point.

2. In Ebenezer Cox's Company from March 14, to December 5, 1760.

Both of these enlistments were from Attleboro, Mass.

Came to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) from Hubbardston, Mass., about 1772, and probably resided from time to time on the Stoddard place, the Temple Scott place, and finally, on the William Priest place in the eastern district. In 1774, had cut over more acreage than anyone else in town.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

In Captain James Lewis' Company of Colonel Daniel Moore's Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, that marched from Marlborough and joined the Continental Army at Saratoga. Service from September 28th, to October 24th, 1777.

When a church was organized in 1781, he and his wife, Rebecca, were charter members.

Died in Nelson, December 6, 1834, at the age of 92, and is buried in the Cemetery on the Town Common.

REV. JACOB FOSTER.

Born in Holliston, Mass., March 10, 1732. Graduated at Harvard College in 1754, in the same class as Governor John Hancock. Was ordained pastor of the Church at Berwick, Maine, in 1756.

At his own request was dismissed from his charge and entered the Continental Army, May 31, 1775, as Chaplain of Col. James Scammon's Mass. Regiment, and remained until January 1, 1776, when he resigned to accept a similar position in the regiment of Col. Edmund Phinney. His name appears on a muster roll of the latter organization dated Garrison at Fort George, December 8, 1776.

Prior to 1780, there was no organized church in Packersfield. On October 12th of that year the inhabitants presented a call to Mr. Foster to become their minister. He accepted, and a church of ten members was formed January 31st, 1781, and on the same day he was installed as pastor. He filled the position successfully for ten years, till compelled to resign on account of ill health.

At a town meeting held January 1, 1782, the following committee was chosen "to consider the new form of government" (referring to a proposed State Constitution). Rev. Jacob Foster, chairman, Capt. James Bancroft, William Barker, Mr. Amos Child, Lieut. Peletiah Day, Lieut. Archelus Wilson, and Mr. Uriah Wheeler. The reason that William Barker was not given a title was doubtless that as Town Clerk he made the record. At a subsequent meeting Mr. Foster was appointed agent of the town "to return the town's objections against said plan of Government."

His daughter Sophia married, August 13, 1783, Samuel Griffin, and they have had numerous descendants. General Simon Goodell Griffin was one of them.

Mr. Foster's parsonage was situated in the field a few yards north of the present cemetery, where an old well can still be seen. Current bushes planted by him still flourish.

Died in Nelson, December 3, 1798, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JONATHAN FRENCH.

Born in Hollis, N. H., January 9, 1762. Son of John and brother of John, Jr., and William.

Came to town with his father about 1775.

Probably in Captain David Place's Company on Seavey's Island in November, 1775, enlisted for the defense of Portsmouth.

In Captain John Goss' Company of Militia in Colonel Nichols' Regiment, and General Stark's Brigade, raised and marched to reinforce the Northern Army, July 20, 1777. Discharged September 28, 1777. At battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

In Captain Daniel Emerson's Company in Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment of Volunteers which marched from State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in the State of Rhode Island, August, 1778. Service August 6th, to August 28th. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

Enlisted from Packersfield July 5, 1779, for six months' service in the State of Rhode Island in Captain Ephraem Stone's Company of Colonel Mooney's Regiment.

Probably left town during or soon after the war.

Died in Dublin, N. H., in 1790.

JOHN FRENCH.

Born May 17, 1727. The father of William, John, Jr., and Jonathan.

Came to Packersfield from Hollis, N. H., in March, 1775.

Probably one of the 27 men who under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield to Cambridge, April 21, 1775.

Chosen member of Committee of Inspection, September 25, 1775, his colleagues being Eleazer Twitchell, Benjamin Nurse, Amos Skinner, and Abijah Brown.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

Possibly may have performed some of the military service attributed to his son of the same name.

After living in Packersfield for about nine years in a two-room loghouse, he removed to Dublin, N. H., where he died in April, 1808.

JOHN FRENCH, JR.

Born in Hollis, N. H., in April, 1757. Son of John and brother of William and Jonathan.

Came to Packersfield with his father about 1775.

Probably one of the 27 men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield on the Lexington Alarm April, 1775.

In Captain Jonathan Brockway's Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that marched on the 6th and 13th of July, 1777, on the Alarm at Ticonderoga. Marched on the 8th day of July from Washington to Cavendish, distance 40 miles, and then received orders to turn back. On the 13th they received orders to march the second time for Ticonderoga and marched as far as Otter Creek, distance over 60 miles. There they met the army and retreated back.

Member of Captain Salmon Stone's Company of Colonel Nichols' Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, raised out of the 15th Regiment of New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale Colonel, which company marched from Rindge, and joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater. From July 21 to September 26, 1777.

In the Battle of Bennington August 6, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

In Captain Samuel Twitchell's Company of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Volunteers, which marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army on Rhode Island in August, 1778. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

January 9, 1779, enlisted from Packersfield for six months' service in Colonel Mooney's Regiment for the defense of Rhode Island.

After the war left town and subsequently resided in Swansey and Dublin, New Hampshire, and Northfield, Massachusetts.

WILLIAM FRENCH.

Born in Hollis, N. H., May 19, 1754. The son of John French. Brother of John, Jr., and Jonathan.

Marched from Peterborough, N. H., in Captain William Scott's Company of Minute Men, Colonel Paul Dudley Sergeant's Regiment, April 20, 1775, in response to the Lexington Alarm.

April 23rd enlisted for eight months in same company and regiment, giving his residence as "Packersfield".

Killed at the Battle of Bunker Hill June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

JOHN GIBSON.

June 29, 1780, enlisted from Packersfield to recruit the Continental Army in New York. Discharged December 4, 1780, age then 18 years. In same company as Theodore Barker and Jonathan Parker.

Probably considerable other service.

ABRAHAM GOODENOW.

Born in Sudbury, Mass., April 27, 1749, the fourth generation from Edmund Goodenow, who came from England in 1638.

Private in Captain Nathaniel Lakin's Company of Colonel John Jacob's Light Infantry Regiment; enlisted September 30, 1779; discharged November 30, 1779; service in Rhode Island.

Married May 14, 1780, for his second wife, Silence (Tower) Ingersoll, widow of Simeon Ingersoll. They came to Packersfield prior to 1790 and settled on the Charles Sheldon place, near Long Pond.

He died there September 15, 1804, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

SAMUEL GRIFFIN.

Born in Bradford, Mass., in 1755. Son of Samuel Griffin and of Welsh descent.

As a Minute Man, on the "Lexington Alarm" of April 19, 1775, he marched from Temple, N. H., to Cambridge, Mass., and there enlisted for eight months in Captain Ezra Towne's Company of Colonel James Reed's New Hampshire Regiment.

Was in the battle of "Bunker Hill," June 17, 1775, and at the subsequent "Siege of Boston."

A member of Captain Joseph Parker's Company, raised out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment, that joined the Northern Army at Ticonderoga in 1776.

There were gathered at Cambridge, in the latter part of April, 1775, perhaps as many as sixteen thousand men, unorganized, and with no equipment except what each had brought with him when hastily summoned from home. Of the twenty-seven who came from Packersfield at least three had no muskets and probably the proportion was as great among those from most other towns. Some who had firearms had no powder and no one had but a little, and the securing of food was a terrible problem.

These circumstances, and the fact that none of them had time to arrange his affairs before he came, and the season was at hand when crops must be planted, caused a large number to return home. Some of these, however, came back later.

As a body they were—

> "A motley rout . . .
> In raiment tanned by years of sun and storm,
> Of every shape that was not uniform,
> Dotted with regimentals here and there;
> An army all of Captains, used to pray,
> And stiff to fight, but serious drill's despair;
> Skilled to debate their orders, not obey;
> Deacons were there, selectmen, men of note,
> In half tamed hamlets ambushed round with woods."*

All through May there was great activity, trying to organize an army. Men who were popular enough to get from 40 to 60 others to follow them organized companies. Those from New Hampshire, not liking Cambridge,

*From "Under the Old Elm," by James Russell Lowell.

went over to Medford, where they asked John Stark, an old hunter, trapper and veteran of the French and Indian wars, to take charge of them until the New Hampshire Provincial Congress could act. As there became too many for one regiment, James Reed, of Fitzwilliam, was asked to command the surplus.

About the first of June the New Hampshire Congress commissioned Stark and Reed as Colonels, ratified the organization which the men had already made, and ordered them to put themselves under the command of General Ward of Massachusetts.

Stark remained at Medford, but on June 13th Reed's regiment was ordered to a position near Charleston Neck.

The men were enlisted for eight months and probably about half of those who responded to the Lexington Alarm became members of this permanent organization.

The New Hampshire Committee of Safety took a census in the fall of 1775, which showed thirteen Packersfield men then "in the army". As this was at a later date than the battle of "Bunker Hill," where two were killed, the original number appears to have been fifteen.

As nearly or quite all of these, and many others, like Griffin, who subsequently settled in the town, were in this battle, it is a matter of peculiar interest, meriting a detailed description.

Boston then was a small town on a peninsula with a narrow connection with the main land at Roxbury neck.

North of it, only a short distance away, across the mouth of the Charles River, was the little peninsula of Charlestown. The broad end of the latter, toward Boston, was about half a mile wide. Its length was a little short of a mile. On the farther side of it was the Mystic River. From the shore next to Boston the land rose gradually till at the further and narrow end, called Bunker Hill, it was about 125 feet above sea level. This peninsula only escaped being an island by having a causeway on its northern extremity which was sometimes covered by water at high tide.

Standing on Beacon Hill in Boston and looking across, on the right-hand corner could be seen Moulton's Point, and on the left-hand corner the village of Charlestown.

As Boston was almost surrounded by water, and the British had fortified Roxbury neck, the Americans saw little chance, as things were, of doing any harm to the garrison, which now numbered ten thousand veteran troops. Their few little cannon would not carry far enough. A council of war was held and the proposition was made to go on to Charleston peninsula and fortify Bunker Hill, from which they could command not only the better part of Boston, but the shipping in the harbor. There was much difference of opinion. Generals Ward and Warren were strongly opposed to it, but were overruled, when a rumor came that the British were about to come over and occupy the hill themselves. So, in the evening of Friday, June 16th, a detachment under command of Colonel William Prescott, consisting of about 300 of his own regiment and details from several others, gathered on Cambridge Common, and, after prayer by Rev. Samuel Langdon, President of Harvard College, marched off on an expedition, the nature of which was only known to Prescott and one or two other officers. They marched across Charleston neck and then

halted while it was made known to all that the orders were to erect a redoubt on Bunker Hill. A school history that some of us used in our childhood, states that they missed Bunker Hill in the darkness, and by mistake fortified Breed's Hill. This is hardly accurate. They knew all the time perfectly well just where they were. A discussion having arisen as to whether the order meant the *top* of the hill, they finally concluded that it was allowable to go a little nearer to Boston, and marched on half a mile till they got to the edge of Charleston village, where they could plainly hear the sentinels across the water, in Boston, challenge and call the hours, with "All's well".

"Bunker Hill" was then a well known locality. It was owned by Nehemiah Rand, grandfather of Dr. Nehemiah Rand, who lived many years in Nelson. His residence was in Charlestown, and he was by trade a hatter. That afternoon his two dwelling houses and his shop were burned and he and his family compelled to flee for safety.

The place selected had previously no name other than Ebenezer Breed's cow pasture. That is why the battle that took place there is commonly called "Bunker Hill". The name Breed's Hill was subsequently invented by some one who favored exactness of description.

Pick axe and shovel were quietly and vigorously plied, and when daylight broke there was a little square fort with earthwork walls about four feet high.

The British ships of war and gunboats began at once to bombard it, but no great harm was done.

During the forenoon the walls were strengthened till they were six feet high.

Meanwhile the diggers began to grumble. They were hot and tired. Food and drink, which had been promised, did not come. Neither did a relief party which had also been promised. And worse than this, there were indications that the British, in large force, were about to attack them.

Many messengers were sent to General Ward at Cambridge, but for a long time he refused to believe that Cambridge was not the place that would be attacked. Finally, however, he ordered the two New Hampshire regiments to go to Prescott's assistance.

Meanwhile the British were coming across and landing at Moulton's Point, and Prescott discovered that all of his command were not the stuff that heroes are made of. He could control his own men, but not those from other regiments. Many concluded that the entrenching tools must be moved at once to Bunker Hill. They went back with them and never returned.

In excuse for this conduct it may be said that they saw floating batteries on both sides of the neck firing at the causeway and a force, several times their number, moving to attack in front. It looked as though they were in a trap and had been abandoned to their fate.

It was a welcome sight to those that remained steadfast when, about three o'clock in the afternoon, they saw Reed's Regiment coming over the top of Bunker Hill.

At the head of the column was Towne's Company of three officers and fifty-two men, among whom, in addition to Griffin, were Joseph Felt, David Marshall, Isaac Stanhope and John Breed.

A great cheer went up from the redoubt, which was heartily returned.

A little later Stark's men came in sight. They were late from having had to march about four miles. As they approached the neck and found that it was raked by heavy fire, Captain Dearborn suggested that they quicken their pace while they went across, but the Colonel refused, saying that he was not going to have his men winded; that one fresh man in action was worth a dozen who were fatigued. They accordingly kept a steady step and did not straggle—all things considered, a wonderful performance!

Reed's Regiment, when they got their orders, were practically without ammunition. Marching to a house they were using as an arsenal, each man received there a gill of powder, 15 bullets and a flint. As the bullets were all of the same size, while hardly two men had guns of the same calibre, the first thing many of them had to do was to whittle or pound them down small enough so they could ram them home. A few who had boxes made up cartridges, but most of them put the powder in their horns and the bullets in their pockets.

When Griffin's company reached the foot of Bunker Hill they took off their packs and coats—it was a blazing hot day—and left them in an old house. When they came back later British cannon balls had set the house on fire and most of their property had been consumed.

They all reached the front except one man. The story of how they lost him is thus told in Kidder's History of New Ipswich:

"One Peter Lowell, who had always been the greatest braggart in the company, upon reaching the Neck where the shot were flying, was suddenly taken with a severe bellyache, and asked permission to retire. No one listened to his complaint for some time, but at last Captain Towne, fearing his disorder might become contagious, gave him leave to go, but Peter was afraid to go alone and asked that some one might accompany him. This was asking quite too much and Captain Towne, drawing his sword, told him if he did not instantly scamper he would run him through. Peter took to his heels and was never seen in camp afterwards. It was said he never stopped running till he reached home."

As they approached the redoubt the condition of things they discovered was this: The remnants of Prescott's detachment were in the redoubt. Just outside on the left some 150 Connecticut men were trying to erect a defensive barrier. On the other side of the redoubt there was no support. At Moulton's Point there were more than 3,000 British troops about to advance and obviously intending to move along the Mystic and take the redoubt in flank and rear.

There was very little time to do anything. Colonel Reed sent Captain Crosby's Company to Prescott's assistance, and with a few other troops they were stationed on the right in houses on the Main street of Charlestown village at the foot of Breed's Hill.

The rest of the men got busy trying to provide some sort of protection. A rail fence ran part of the way from the neighborhood of the redoubt diagonally toward the Mystic. They pulled down other fences to strengthen and prolong this and, for want of anything better, stuffed hay between the rails. The neighboring field had been mowed the day before and the crop left in cocks and winrows.

Behind this flimsy breastwork they formed and waited for the attack that was already approaching. Stark's men coming later fell in on the left, still nearer the river. They had only a few minutes to work and the barrier of stones and rails they erected was so low that the men had to kneel behind it to secure cover.

In the battle that followed there were on the firing line at least 30 men, and probably more, who had either come from Packersfield or subsequently lived there, and we know very nearly where most of them were stationed.

On the extreme right, in Charlestown Village, as members of Captain Josiah Crosby's Company, were Nathaniel Barrett and Solomon Kittredge. They fought there until driven out by the great conflagration hereafter mentioned.

In the redoubt, members of Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, were Benjamin Bigelow, Samuel Cummings, Nehemiah Pierce and the brothers Joshua and Martin Lawrence. Prescott came from Pepperell and was well known in neighboring towns over the border, so many New Hampshire men had enlisted with him. Bigelow, enlisted from Packersfield, was soon after mortally wounded.

On the left of the redoubt, between the Connecticut men and Reed's regiment, was a small detachment of John Nixon's regiment that arrived late Among them were Sergeant Uriah Wheeler. Ezra Smith and Shadrach Hill. (See Uriah Wheeler.)

Then came the rest of Reed's Regiment with probably 15 others, viz : Benjamin Wheeler, James Phillips. David Marshall, Nehemiah Wright, Edmund Taylor, Ebenezer Tolman, the Scriptures, father and son, John Adams, John Stroud, John Breed, Corporal John Buxton, Isaac Stanhope, Joseph Felt, and Samuel Griffin.

Thomas Baker came with a small detachment of Josiah Whitcomb's Regiment in the midst of the battle. All that is known about them is that they fell in somewhere "at the rail fence," probably with Reed's men.

Then there were Henry Bemis, William French, Samuel Felt, Joseph Stanford, and Samuel Bassett, who eventually belonged to Paul Dudley Sargeant's Regiment. Mr. Frothingham, in his History of the Siege of Boston, says that this Regiment was only partly organized on the 17th of June, and that the New Hampshire men enlisted for it fought in the regiments of Stark and Reed. William French, enlisted from Packersfield, was killed. Colonel Sargeant lived at Amherst, N. H., and his regiment was mostly composed of New Hampshire men.

During the day there was terrible confusion at Cambridge. General Ward, a feeble old man, was unequal to the occasion, and he did not have sufficient staff even to carry his orders. Late in the day orders were issued sending most of the troops there to the front, but in some instances they never reached those for whom intended, and very few who received them got farther than the neck, or at most Bunker Hill. This is not surprising, for in the haste, in some cases, ammunition was not issued,—there was scarcely any to issue,—and officers as well as men were without experience and discipline, and many of the former incapable and unfit. Besides, as has been already noted, anyone with half an eye could see that once on the peninsula it would be very hard getting back again.

When the first attack was made the New Hampshire men were about all the reinforcements that had come. As the fight went on a few arrived as individuals or in scattered groups. No regiment, and hardly a company, came as a body.

Seth Pomeroy, a man of seventy years, and Dr. Joseph Warren, both of whom had just been commissioned Generals, came with muskets in hand and reported to Prescott, refusing commands and volunteering to fight in the ranks.

Warren, when his friend Elbridge Gerry remonstrated, quoted the line of Horace, *"Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori".*—It is sweet and glorious to die for one's country. He had done so before night.

"And thus Warren fell! Happy death! Noble fall!
To perish for Country at Liberty's Call!
Should the flag of invasion profane evermore
The blue of our seas or the green of our shore,
May the hearts of our people re-echo that cry,—
'Tis sweet, Oh, 'tis sweet for Our Country to die.' "*

James Otis, formerly the most eloquent patriotic leader, till an attack by ruffians almost killed him and left him insane, getting into his confused brain an idea of what was going on, left his sisters' house at Watertown, procured a musket at a wayside farmhouse, and he, too, a pathetic figure, came to the redoubt.

On the other hand, sad to say, the number of those watchfully waiting on Bunker Hill was nearly as great as that of those risking their lives on Breed's Hill.

Those actually on the firing line, all told, were only between 1,400 and 1,500 men, more than two-thirds of whom came from New Hampshire.

Officers as well as men carried muskets, and very poor firearms most of them were,—many being the work of village blacksmiths. They were effective only at short range.

Up the slope came the British, General Howe in person commanding in front of the fence.

The patriots who saw the sight were never tired of telling how magnificent their enemies looked; with their red coats, white breeches and black leggins; just out of barracks, everything spotless; with polished belt plates and gun barrels glistening in the sun. While, in contrast, the Americans had only their farming clothes, which had not looked any too well when they left home, two months before, and had not been improved by being slept in for that period, usually on the bare ground.

At the redoubt some of the officers ran along the top of the parapet and kicked up the guns of those who wished to fire too soon. "Wait till you see the whites of their eyes", and "aim at their waistbands" was passed along the line. In front of the fence an officer paced off thirty yards, stuck up a stake, and threatened to do all kinds of violence to anyone who dared to fire until the redcoats passed it.

The British began firing at long range, but were met with silence until it seemed as though there was none to oppose them. Then came a crash, every shot carefully aimed. After that each man fired at will and the fifteen bullets disappeared rather fast, especially as some put in more than one at a time.

* From "The Death of Warren," by Epes Sargent.

In about fifteen minutes there was nothing left in front but a fleeing mob, leaving the hillside covered with their dead.

Meanwhile General Putnam "Old Put," who had come on the field and was supposed to be in command, went back to Bunker Hill to try and get reinforcements to come up, but, in spite of his fiery language, they would not budge. Being a church member he was subsequently called to account for some of his remarks, and apologized, saying, however, that it was enough to make an angel swear.

He did not come back to the line himself, which occasioned some comment. Many years after Nehemiah Wright, in his pension application, said that he understood Putnam retreated back to Cambridge. This was an echo of what many others had said on previous occasions.

The British reformed and came up again. The fight was hotter than before.

Meanwhile, the roofs of Boston, and every neighboring hilltop were black with people viewing the great sight. There probably never was another battle that furnished such a spectacle.

Again they were driven back, and it was hoped that it was the end, but, after a long delay and the arrival of reinforcements from Boston, they came a third time.

Charlestown was set on fire and under cover of the smoke the redoubt was approached closer than before. Even then they would have failed, but the ammunition of the Americans at the redoubt became utterly exhausted. They flung stones and clods of earth, but having no bayonets could not withstand the British as they swarmed over the walls.

Those at the fence remained long enough to cover the retreat of those from the redoubt, and then sullenly fell back themselves in good order, having fired literally the last possible shot.

The British losses, especially in front of the rail fence, were something terrible. A letter from Boston, written July 5, 1775, says "most of our grenadiers and light infantry, the moment they presented themselves, lost three-fourths, and many nine-tenths of their men. Some had only eight and nine men to a company left; some only three, four and five."

Every officer on General Howe's staff was cut down and only one survived his wounds.

Major Pitcairn died in front of the redoubt. (See William Barker and Shadrach Hill.)

Their total loss was a thousand and fifty-four, of whom eighty-nine were commissioned officers. The American loss was four hundred and forty-nine.

There have always been many disputes as to just what took place, and difference of opinion as to the wisdom of many things that were done. On one thing everyone has agreed,—that the conduct of the New Hampshire troops was magnificent.

Living in Charlestown at this time and seeing the battle was Josiah Parker, a lad eleven years old. His home was one of over 400 that were destroyed. The family then moved to Wilton, N. H. The following year his father enlisted and died in the service. Young Parker subsequently settled in Packersfield and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

General Simon Goodell Griffin has the following as to his grandfather's experiences on the retreat,—

"Deacon Samuel Griffin was in Reed's regiment at the battle of Bunker Hill on the north side of the hill towards the Mystic River. There was but one bayonet in the regiment. They had fired away all their cartridges and were waiting for the British to come up again, when looking suddenly round they discovered the Red Coats coming upon them from the rear. They fled to the river. The man-of-war *Glasgow* and two floating batteries were lying there to cut them down. They fired upon our troops but did no injury for, keeping an eye on them our men would drop into the water when they fired, then up and wade as fast as possible, and thus escaped."

Griffin came to Packersfield as early as 1779, subsequently married Sophia, daughter of Rev. Jacob Foster, and settled on the top of the hill above the "George Hardy" place on the left-hand side of the road leading to Mr. Wayland P. Tolman's.

He soon became very prominent in the town's affairs, and continued so the rest of his life, being a Justice of the Peace, holding important offices for many terms, and serving on numerous committees; for example—at a Town Meeting held September 10, 1787, when they were building the new meeting house, as Town Clerk he recorded, "Voted to treat the Spectators with Liquor on the Common on the Raising Day at the Discretion of a Committee to be Chosen for that purpose. Voted that

Samuel Griffin, Esq.,		
Deacon Solomon Ingalls	}	Be a Committee
Mr. Samuel Warren,	}	for the
Deacon William Barker,		above purpose."
Lieut. Peletiah Day.		

In 1788 he represented Packersfield and Dublin as a delegate to the convention that adopted the Federal Constitution.

In 1801 was chosen a Deacon of the Church.

Died January 29, 1911, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JAMES GROVER.

In Captain Samuel White's Company (known as the Seventh or West Company) of minutemen of Mansfield, Mass., in Colonel John Dagget's Regiment which marched on the alarm of April 19 1775, as far as Roxbury.

Also in Lieut. John Dean's Company of Colonel John Dagget's Regiment which marched to Rhode Island on the alarm of December 8, 1776.

Came to Packersfield about 1777. Said to have lived on the Amos Bryant place north of Tolman pond, now owned by Mr. Wayland P. Tolman.

JONATHAN HAILD (Heald).

Born in 1760. At the outbreak of the war living in Acton, Mass.

In Captain David Wheeler's Company of Colonel Nixon's Regiment, at siege of Boston, 1775-1776. Shown on payroll of January 15, 1776, but length of service not known. Name on roll spelled *Heald*.

July 7, 1777, enlisted in Captain Abishai Brown's Company of John Robinson's Regiment, and served in Rhode Island for five months and twenty-eight days.

Died in Packersfield, April 14, 1811, and buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

NOAH HARDY.

Born in Hollis, N. H., in 1758 and a resident there in 1775.

Under date of August 9th, 1832, he made a Pension Declaration, now on file at Washington, showing the following services—all confirmed by the New Hampshire Rolls:

1. In the year 1776 went to Winter Hill, near Boston, to visit a brother in the army (three brothers and also his father are said to have served), and while there, on February 5th, volunteered to take the place of one Samuel Wheeler in Captain Spaulding's Company, of Colonel Reed's New Hampshire Regiment, and served six or seven weeks until Wheeler's return. During this period the British evacuated Boston. (See Samuel Felt.)

2. In April, 1776, enlisted for nine months in Captain Timothy Clement's Company of Colonel David Gilman's Regiment, and marched to Portsmouth, N. H. Was stationed on New Castle Island, with a detachment under the command of Major Mooney, engaged on the defense of Piscataqua Harbor.

3. About the last of June, 1776, men were requested to enlist out of his company to go to Ticonderoga to reinforce the army that was retreating from Canada. (See Solomon Kittredge.) He volunteered and became a member of Captain William Harper's Company of Colonel Isaac Wyman's Battalion of 750 men. They were mustered at Haverill, on the Connecticut River, July 16, 1776, and marched to Ticonderoga, where they were stationed on Mount Independence, and there Hardy remained until his discharge, November 20, 1776.

4. At the time of the Burgoyne Invasion, in 1777, enlisted in Captain Daniel Emerson's Company of Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment of Militia that marched from Hollis in June as far as Walpole, N. H., when they met a messenger from Colonel Bellows, who ordered their return. They turned back, but on July 5th were ordered to march again and proceeded as far as Cavendish, Vt., at which place they met Colonel Bellows and his troops on their retreat.

5. In August, 1778, volunteered in Captain Daniel Emerson's Company of Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment, that marched from New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in Rhode Island and was in the attack upon the British by General Sullivan. This service lasted about a month. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

6. In 1780 enlisted in Captain Benjamin Spaulding's Company in Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire to reinforce the Continental Army in New York. Marched to West Point; stationed there for about three months, during which time Arnold's treason occurred. (See David Kimball, Josiah Melville, Philip Atwood, John Breed and Joshua Kittredge.) In service from July 7th to October 21st.

This last enlistment was from Packersfield. The others were from Hollis.

The circumstances of the event that nearly wrecked the American cause were these (see Quackenbos' "History of the U. S.," page 277):

"General Arnold, whose services at Quebec, Stillwater and elsewhere we have mentioned in high terms, had been placed in command at Philadelphia after its evacuation by the British, but had there been guilty of dishonesty and made himself generally offensive to the inhabitants. By order of Congress he was tried before a court-martial, and, in compliance with its verdict, was reprimanded by Washington. This punishment, though well deserved, excited in Arnold's soul a fierce thirst for vengeance and left him no rest till he had devised a plan for betraying his country to the enemy. Professing unaltered attachment to the cause he had defended with his blood, he solicited the command of West Point, at that time the most important post in the hands of the Americans. Having received the desired appointment in consideration of his previous services, he forthwith proposed to General Clinton to betray the fortress into his hands. Clinton, who believed that the loss of this post would put an end to the rebellion, gladly listened to the offer, and sent Major Andre to confer with the traitor on the conditions of the surrender.

Andre sailed up the Hudson on the Vulture, a British sloop-of-war, landed in the evening a few miles below West Point, and shortly after midnight was met by Arnold in a thicket near the shore. Here the details of their scheme were discussed in whispers; but morning dawned before they had finished, and they withdrew to a house within the American lines. In the course of the morning (September 22nd) the terms were settled. Arnold was to receive £10,000 and the rank of Brigadier-General in the British Army.

Clinton was to ascend the river and appear before West Point, which would be given up after a show of resistance. Plans of the work and a statement of its condition were given to Andre, who concealed them in his stockings. The bargain having been concluded, Arnold returned to his headquarters at Beverly Robinson's house, after giving Andre a pass, with which in the evening he set out for New York City. Taking the east side of the river, he reached the neighborhood of Tarrytown in safety; but there, almost within sight of the British lines, he was stopped by three patriots, John Paulding, Isaac Van Wart and David Williams. Supposing from what they said that they were royalists Andre avowed himself a British officer; but, on discovering his mistake, he produced Arnold's pass, and begged that he might continue his journey. The suspicions of his captors were aroused, and insisting on a search of his person, they discovered the important papers already mentioned. Refusing to release him, even for ten thousand guineas, they bore him to the nearest American post. The officer there in command, not suspecting Arnold, sent Andre to his quarters with a letter explaining why he was detained; but, on consultation with others, the order was countermanded. Andre was taken to North Salem, whence he wrote to Washington, informing him of his name and rank, and the circumstances in which he was placed.

On the morning of Andre's arrest, Arnold expected Washington at his quarters; but, as the letter did not arrive, he sat down to breakfast with his family. While there a letter was placed in his hands, announcing Andre's capture. Calling his wife upstairs, he told her that they must part at once, perhaps forever, and bade her a hasty adieu. Mrs. Arnold, who was unacquainted with her husband's treacherous designs, dismayed at his words, fell fainting to the floor. Hastily kissing his infant boy, who lay asleep in the cradle, the traitor left the house by an unfrequented path and escaped in his

barge to the Vulture, which lay a few miles below. Here he not only refused to give the boatmen their fee, but even offered to surrender them as prisoners to the British. The Captain of the Vulture, however, despising his meanness, paid the men and let them go.

Washington presently arrived at the Robinson House, and, not finding Arnold, crossed to West Point. Here he was equally unsuccessful. Returning to Robinson's, he soon had an explanation of Arnold's absence in the news of Andre's capture and the papers found on his person. Unfortunately, it was too late to arrest the traitor."

General Griffin has the following:

"Dea. Noah Hardy was in the army from this town, and was at West Point when that place was sold by Arnold. When the treason was discovered, orders were given for all the soldiers to remain in their quarters. An officer coming along, Hardy asked what it meant, and was told that the place had been sold to the British—that Arnold had gone over to them—that spies were about, and the orders were issued for the purpose of capturing them.

The day Arnold left, Washington arrived there on a visit to West Point entirely unsuspicious of what had happened. Hardy saw him when the papers taken from Andre's boots were handed him. He said Washington took them, read them with evident emotion, then crumpled them in his hands and crammed them into his pockets—walked a short distance and back, took them out and looked at them again, and again crammed them into his pockets and retired to the Commander's station. Presently horsemen were seen darting out this way and that and riding at full speed across the country. Arnold had sent detachments of the troops out into the country under one pretence and another, and had had the guns unlimbered for repairs, all for the purpose of putting the place in the worst possible state for defence, so that the British might easily take it in case his schemes failed. These horsemen were sent out to call in those detachments and very soon the place was again prepared for defence."

Hardy was present also when Andre met his fate, which Quackenbos thus describes (page 280):

"Washington now fixed his headquarters at Tappan, and Andre was conveyed thither under a strong escort. He was tried by a court of fourteen generals, among whom were Lafayette, Greene, Steuben and Stirling. The prisoner conducted his own defence, and made a plain statement of the facts, denying that he was a spy, inasmuch as he had entered the American lines on the invitation of an American general. The court, however, after long deliberation, pronounced him a spy and sentenced him to death. Andre was a brave, amiable and accomplished man, and his sentence, though just, excited the sympathies of Americans as well as British. Clinton tried every means to effect his release. Washington proposed to exchange him for Arnold, but gladly as the British general would have done this, he felt that he could not honorably break his faith even with a traitor, and reluctantly declined the offer. The sentence was carried into effect on the 2nd of October. Andre showed no fear of death, but asked to be shot instead of hanged. Even this last request Washington felt compelled to refuse. The remains of the unfortunate officer were buried near the place of execution, but were afterwards disinterred and

taken to London, where they now rest in Westminster Abbey." (See David Kimball.)

Hardy came to Packersfield in 1779 and was the ancestor of all of that name that have since lived in town. Located on the hill a quarter of a mile north of the Bancroft place. His wife was Sarah Spofford. (See David Spofford.)

Was a skillful cooper and carried on that trade in addition to farming.

Said to have been rather small in stature, but mentally alert, argumentative and strong willed.

Very active in town affairs for many years.

Chosen deacon of the church in 1811. Spent his last years with his daughter Hannah, Mrs. Benjamin M. Buckminster, in Antrim, N. H., and died there December 21, 1835.

ERASTUS HARRIS.

Born in Wrentham, Mass., April 8, 1731.

Like William Barker, William Follette and probably some of the other early settlers, Harris had been a soldier in the French and Indian wars, enlisting from Medway. The rolls that have been preserved show the following:

1. Was a private in Captain Benjamin Wood's Company from August 26 to December 13, 1775, in the expedition against Crown Point.

2. March 29, 1758, enlisted in Captain Cox's Company in Col. Ruggles' Regiment, but the length and nature of service is not shown in any roll now on file.

3. In 1759 is shown as one of the men from Capt. Jonathan Adams' Company of Col. Francis Bindley's Regiment "for the invasion of Canada." Age 27 years at time of enlistment.

4. In 1760 ending November 2nd was a Sergeant in Captain John Taplin's Company of Colonel Frye's Regt. at Fort Cumberland.

When the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775 he was rather old for field service, but undoubtedly was the Erastus Harris of Medway, who:

1. Served as Sergeant in Major J. Fuller's Company commanded by Lieut. Moses Adams in Colonel John Smith's Regiment, which marched in response to the Lexington Alarm April 19, 1775, being credited with 11 days' service.

2. Served as Sergeant in Captain John Homes' Company of Colonel Jonathan Reed's Regiment of Guards from April 1 to July 4, 1778, at Cambridge.

An Erastus Harris also served other enlistments, but the identity is uncertain.

Came to Packersfield near the close of the War for Independence and located in what is now Harrisville, where he died December 25, 1806. The village took its name from his family.

LUTHER HEATON.

In a company commanded by Captain Davis Howlet, raised out of Colonel Ashley's Regiment of Militia, which marched from Keene to reinforce the Continental Army at Ticonderoga, June 29-July 3, 1777.

In Captain Nehemiah Houghton's company of Militia in Colonel Nichols' Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire, which joined the Continental Army at West Point, July 8-October 21, 1780.

Came to Packersfield about 1786, and settled in the south part of the town.

SHADRACH HILL.

Son of John Hill; born in Southboro, Mass., July 23, 1744.

Member of Captain Simon Edget's Company of Minute Men that marched from Framingham on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775, engaged the retreating British at Merriam's Corner and in the Lincoln woods, and continued the pursuit as far as Cambridge.

Enlisted at Cambridge, April 24, 1775, for eight months in Captain Thomas Drury's Company of Col. John Nixon's Regiment.

In battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.

J. H. Temple, in his history of Framingham, at page 295, says: "Captain Thomas Drury of this town was there, and had with him fifty of his company, all Framingham men. Part of this company fought in the redoubt with Prescott and part were at the hay breastwork. Peter Salem, who shot Major Pitcairn, was a member of this company." (See Samuel Griffin.)

Hill came to Packersfield soon after completion of his term of service.

August 5, 1777, was chosen a member of the Committee of Safety, his colleagues being Captain Eleazer Twitchell, George Brintnall, Seth Cobb and Jonathan Drury.

He lived on what is now known as the Cabot place. Sold it to Thomas Richardson in 1784 and left town.

DANIEL HOLT.

Born in Andover, Mass., September 11, 1740. During the war lived at Wilton, N. H.

In Captain John Bradford's Company, in Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment, raised to reinforce the Northern Army, July 19, 1777. Two months. At battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

In Captain Josiah Crosby's Company of Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment of Volunteers which marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in Rhode Island, August 5th to August 28th, 1778.

Enlisted out of Colonel Nichols' Regiment from Wilton, July 13, 1779, for six months, in a New Hampshire Regiment commanded by Colonel Mooney for the defense of Rhode Island. In Captain Daniel Emerson's Company. Promoted Corporal.

In Captain William Barron's Company of Colonel Nichols' Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire for the defense of the United States in July, 1780, and stationed at West Point.

February 27, 1781, enlisted for three years in the First Regiment, New Hampshire Continental line. Probably in the Yorktown Campaign and at surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

Came to Packersfield soon after his discharge. Located on what is known as "Holt Hill" in the Northeast Quarter.

Said to have removed to some place in New York about 1809.

JOEL HOLT.

Born in Andover, Mass., July 4, 1764.

In a pension declaration verified July 4, 1820, he stated that his residence was Nelson and that "he enlisted at Wilton, New Hampshire, in Capt. Isaac Frye's Company, in Col. Scammel's Regiment. New Hampshire line for three years in February, 1781, and was honorably discharged in December, 1783." He also stated that he is "unable to labor on account of a breach which I received in the service." Probably in the Yorktown Campaign and at surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

Came to Packersfield prior to 1790; probably about 1786.

Located north of the Hiram Holt place.

Died in Milford, N. H., June 28, 1847.

SOLOMON INGALLS.

Born in Andover, Mass., June 16, 1750.

Probably the Solomon Ingalls of Andover who was in service with the Northern Army in New York in March, 1777, as Sergeant in Captain Samuel Johnson's Company of Colonel Wigglesworth's Regiment, and later, in same year, as Sergeant-Major of Colonel Samuel Johnson's Regiment, commanded by Major Gage.

Came to Packersfield about 1783. In 1784 chosen first deacon of the church which had been organized in 1781. It appears that he joined the church by letter in 1784, indicating that he had only recently came to town.

Lived in North East Quarter on a part of the Sawyer place.

Died near Cape Vincent, New York, September 22, 1840.

JONATHAN JEWETT.

Born in Boxford, Mass., March 12, 1739. Settled first in Rindge, N. H., and the latter part of his life was in Jaffrey, N. H., on what is now known as the Jonathan Comstock place.

Member of Captain Salmon Stone's Company in Colonel Nichols' Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment, New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale, Colonel, which company marched from Rindge in July, 1777, and joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater. Service July 21-September 25, 1777. At battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

The editors of these sketches are not entirely free from doubt as to whether he ever resided in Packersfield for any considerable length of time. His name is included in deference to an unqualified statement by General Griffin that he was such a resident. When the General wrote his memorandum on the subject, about fifty years ago, he had facilities for information not now existing. Then, Jewett had a grandson living in Sullivan or Jaffrey, and relatives living in Nelson, with all of whom Griffin was probably personally acquainted. The well known Jewett family that flourished in Nelson for several generations was, however, not descended from Jonathan, but from Isaac Jewett, who came to town from Hollis, N. H., about 1788. The latter was born July 5, 1763, and was therefore too young for service at the time of the war.

DAVID KIMBALL.

Born in Bradford, Mass., April 12th, 1760.

There was no better soldier among the many good ones that lived in Nelson. His enlistments were as follows, viz.:

1. When barely 15 years of age, on the 19th of April, 1775, as a minute man, he responded to the Lexington Alarm, and marched from Boxford, Mass., as a member of Captain John Cushing's Company of Colonel Samuel Johnson's Regiment.

2. The next year, 1776, at the age of 16, he formed part of the garrison at Ticonderoga, as a member of Captain Richard Peabody's Company in Colonel Edward Wigglesworth's Regiment, serving part of the time as Captain Peabody's orderly.

3. On April 21st, 1777, at the age of 17, he enlisted for three years in Captain Daniel Lane's Company of Colonel Ichabod Alden's regiment, Massachusetts Continental Line, and was honorably discharged at the expiration of such services.

4. He then, in 1780, re-enlisted for six months in Captain Wilder's Company of Colonel Jackson's Regiment, and served it out, being discharged January 10, 1781. His description on this last enlistment was "Age 20 years; stature 5 feet 7 inches; complexion light".

In a very short pension declaration, made July 4, 1820, among other things he says: "I was at the Battle of Bemis Heights, so called, or Stillwater."

General Griffin, after speaking of Kimball's service under Captain Peabody, adds the following interesting information:

"He was at the battle of Stillwater as a soldier with Arnold and used to relate anecdotes of the prowess of Arnold, and tell how like a tiger he fought. To him, doubtless, as much as to any one man, belonged the honor of winning the victories of Stillwater and Saratoga. Kimball himself, at Stillwater, stood behind a small ash tree when the bark, cut away by the enemy's shot, spattered in his face, but the bullets went over his head. He, also, was at West Point when that place was sold to the British, and saw Andre hung. He said he was the finest looking gentleman he ever saw, and when he saw him led to the scaffold he thought he would give anything to save so noble an officer. He was splendidly dressed in uniform,—a deep blue coat trimmed and faced with scarlet, buff breeches, white vest, buff gloves, a cocked hat and military boots. When all was ready he did not wait for them to remove the plank from under him, but settled into the rope himself. Kimball was also at Valley Forge with Washington during that terrible winter of privation and famine. He used to speak of Washington, as did all the old soldiers who knew him, with the greatest respect and veneration. He said he was a thin, spare man "not very smart looking, but always calm and dignified". Kimball also went with General Sullivan on his expedition against the Indians and was present at the massacre at Cherry Valley."

Other authorities confirm all this with the exception of what is said as to "Valley Forge." That he spent with Washington a "terrible Winter of privation and famine" is correct, but the place was the Highlands of the Hudson, and the time 1779-80.

We know a great deal about what happened to him, not only because Alden's regiment was connected with several of the most notable events of the war, but also because two of its officers, Captain Benjamin Warren and Quartermaster and Ensign William McKendry kept, from day to day, faithful diaries, the greater portion of which have been preserved.

From October 1, 1778, till January, 1780, McKendry and Kimball were in the same company.

The Lexington Alarm in 1775 and what happened at Ticonderoga in 1776, are elsewhere described.

"Stillwater", "Saratoga", "Cherry Valley" and the "Sullivan Expedition" were during his third enlistment; Arnold's treason during his fourth. (See Noah Hardy.)

In June, 1777, Burgoyne began his great invasion from Canada, intending to move by way of Lake Champlain and Lake George to the Hudson River and down it till he joined General Howe in New York, cutting the colonies in two and isolating New England.

His force, consisting of 8,000 regular troops, splendidly equipped, supplemented by a large number of Indians and Tories, on the 17th of June started up Champlain, and about the 1st of July approached Fort Ticonderoga, situated between the two lakes.

Before the war England had spent immense sums on the fortifications, and both that at Ticonderoga proper and that on Mount Independence, on the opposite side of the lake, were extensive and apparently strong. The little garrison of about 3,000 men, half of whom were ill, was, however, too small to man them, and worse than that, it had been discovered, by actual test, that from the top of Sugar Hill, which was not fortified at all, an enemy could easily shoot down on every spot in the entire position.

The American Commander, General St. Clair, therefore, felt obliged, on July 6th, to evacuate the stronghold and retreat to the south, abandoning a great quantity of cannon and supplies.

The British immediately hotly pursued, overtook St. Clair's rear guard at Hubbardton, and, by force of superior numbers, cut it badly to pieces before it could join the main body at Castleton. (See Ebenezer Tolman.)

With hardly a check, Burgoyne reached the Hudson and began to move down toward Albany. On July 30th he captured Fort Edward on its eastern bank, and the patriot forces fell back successively to Fort Miller, Saratoga and Stillwater. (See Diary of Captain Warren below.) His supplies, however, were running low, and he had to wait until more could arrive from Canada.

Meanwhile, New England had been aroused and militia were hastening to the scene. Some tried to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga, but turned back when they learned the place was taken. (See Noah Hardy, John Farwell.) Others kept on, seeking to join the remnants of the Northern Army that was striving in vain to check the invasion.

The British General finally became impatient and, hearing that there were stores of corn and cattle at Bennington, only a few miles eastward, resolved to seize them. The attempt ended in complete disaster. Not only did he obtain no supplies but, in a fight with the militia under General Stark, on August 16th, he lost over 1,000 of his best men. (See Richard Farwell.)

On September 13th, he crossed to the west side of the Hudson at Saratoga, twelve miles above Stillwater, where the patriots, resolving to make a final stand, had been collecting an army of mixed Continentals and Militia, and had occupied a ridge called Bemis Heights.

This force was larger than that of Burgoyne, but undisciplined and poorly equipped, lacking especially artillery, of which the British had an excellent train. The American leaders, therefore, decided that they would have a better chance by fighting in the woods, and took their position accordingly—hence Kimball's ash tree.

A battle took place September 19th, and was stubbornly contested from noon till late at night, without definite results. It has been variously called the "Battle of Stillwater," the "First Battle of Saratoga," and the "Battle of Bemis Heights." The British called it "Freeman's Farm."

Benedict Arnold commanded on the left wing and behaved with his accustomed vigor, gaining great admiration from the rank and file, who made invidious comparisons between him and other officers, thereby fanning jealousies which were much too hot before.

There had long been bad blood between Arnold and General Gates, his immediate superior, and when Gates, in his report of the battle, made no mention whatever of Arnold, the latter expressed his opinion in rather unmilitary language; whereupon Gates relieved him of his command, and appointed General Lincoln in his place. Arnold started to leave camp and was only induced to stay by the written request of all the general officers except Gates and Lincoln.

October 7th, the British attacked again and at first were successful. Arnold had been fretting in his tent and drinking heavily for several days. In the midst of the battle, though having no command, he rushed on the field and rode between the lines more like a frenzied madman than an officer. His old soldiers cheered, followed him, and engaged the enemy hand to hand. His horse was shot and he was wounded in the thigh, just at the moment when the Americans won a decisive victory. This was doubtless what Kimball had in mind when he spoke of Arnold's fighting "like a tiger."

> "'Forward!' he shouted, and spurring on through the sally-port then,
> Fell sword in hand on the Hessians, closely behind him our men.
> Back shrank the foemen in terror; off went their forces pellmell,
> Firing one Parthian volley; struck by it, Arnold, he fell.
>
> Benedict Arnold, the traitor, sank deep in the pit of shame.
> Bartered for vengeance his honor, blackened for profit his fame;
> Yet never a gallanter soldier, whatever his after crime,
> Fought on the red field of honor than he in his early time."*

Popular opinion made him the hero of the second battle, and even when, after his treason, his name became a byword of contempt, some of the patriots always qualified the infamy with the remembrance of Saratoga. "Cut off the leg that was wounded at Saratoga," said one of them, "and bury it with all the honors of war; and then hang his body on the nearest tree."

The New Hampshire and Massachusetts militia continued to arrive, till

*From "Arnold at Stillwater," by Thomas Dunn English. See Ebenezer Tolman and Noah Hardy. See also extract from Captain Warren's Diary of October 7.

finally Burgoyne was entirely surrounded, and on October 17th, he was obliged to surrender all that was left of his army—about 5,800 men.

This was the greatest victory won in the entire war, unless perhaps the surrender at Yorktown. No wonder Kimball was careful to mention the fact that he participated. It really was the turning point of the conflict, corresponding with Gettysburg in the Civil War, and ranking among the fifteen decisive battles in the history of the world.

For a long time Benjamin Franklin had been trying to obtain aid in France. Says Lecky,* the historian, "It is probable indeed that the French ministers were undecided until the tidings arrived, in the first week of December, of the surrender at Saratoga. In these tidings they heard the knell of English dominion in America, of English greatness in the world. Their decision was speedily taken. On the 17th of the same month they informed the American Commissioners that they were resolved to enter into a treaty of Commerce with America, to acknowledge and support her Independence, and to seek no advantage for themselves except a participation in American Commerce and the just political end of severing the colonies from the British Empire."

The portion of Captain Warren's diary relating to this campaign is published in the Journal of American History, Vol. 3 (1909), beginning at page 201. The very first entry is to the effect that July 21st, 1777, near Fort Edward, five men out of thirty-four of a scouting party under command of Captain Lane (Kimball's Company) arrived and reported all the others cut off by the Indians. On the 22nd seven more came in and reported all the others killed or captured. (Captain Lane was exchanged September 17th.) That afternoon there was a hot fight. "The enemy consisted mostly of Indians * * *. By great tracks of blood where they drew off we judge their loss was considerable. We had eight killed and fifteen wounded on our side."

And so on, day after day, it was almost continuous fighting. For example, "July 24th. This day about nine o'clock we heard a number of guns; sent out to know the cause; found a Lieutenant named Sawyer and a Sergeant killed and scalped * * * on which a scout of two hundred men were sent out to scour the woods." "July 26th. This morning came an express informing that Major Whiting (of Alden's Regiment) was attacked * * * in which a Lieutenant and seven were killed, and a number wounded. They also took two women out of a house, killed and scalped them. Our people repaired to the fort, defended it and drove them off." July 27th. He says the body of Miss Jane McCrea, murdered and horribly mutilated, was brought in and buried. (This was an event mentioned in all the school histories.) July 28th. "This morning early was alarmed with news that Col. Loring's pickets were surrounded at Fort Edward * * *. We had orders to pack up all and retreat to a hill about two miles above Fort Miller; on our march down the Indians crept between our rear guard and the body and killed and scalped an inhabitant that was watching his pigs." July 30th. "The Indians to the number of four hundred attacked our rear on both sides." July 31st. "This morning at gun firing turned out; drew provision for men; set them cooking, being twenty-four hours since we ate anything; before we had it cooked,

* History of England in the Eighteenth Century.

ordered on our march again for Saratoga * * *. Arrived at a plot of ground below Schuyler's Creek, Saratoga * * * dirty, hungry, weary and wet; lodged in our wet clothes. Slept pretty well."

There is much more of the same sort. Under these conditions young Kimball must have found a soldier's life rather strenuous.

Monday, August 18th. Warren records that news had come of Stark's great victory two days before at Bennington. (See Richard Farwell.)

He thus describes the battle of "Stillwater" or first "Saratoga" on September 19th: "About two o'clock the action began on our left, between their advanced guard and Capt. Morgan's* who was a flanking party; he beat them back to the main body. This action lasted half an hour; the enemy soon reinforced and advanced. The engagement began again at 25 minutes after three o'clock, with great spirit on both sides. We beat them back three times and they reinforced and recovered their ground again till after sunset without any intermission, when both parties retired and left the field. We took a field piece twice and they retook it and carried it off with them * * *. September 20th. "The loss of the enemy was very great; the field was covered with dead almost for several acres. The hottest battle and longest that was ever fought in America. The enemy hove in all their British troops the last reinforcement and its generals."

Of the second battle of October 7th he says: "We marched up on the right of Col. Morgan's* riflemen to their lines, within ten rods of a strange fort; fought them boldly for better than half an hour, when they gave way, left the fort and fled. Our people marched in and took possession of their cannon and 600 tents, standing with baggage, &c. The fire was very hot on both sides. The fields are strewed with the dead * * *. Their loss is, by their own confession, 1,500 killed and wounded; what our loss is I cannot tell, but 17 are killed and wounded in our regiment."

After Burgoyne's surrender most of the Northern Army joined Washington in "the Jerseys" and wintered at Valley Forge, Pa., near Philadelphia. (See William Parker.) Alden's regiment, however, was kept in the neighborhood of Albany and did active service of various kinds.

In April orders came for it to march south, but Governor Clinton of New York wrote Washington so earnestly protesting, that it was allowed to remain a little longer. This was due not only to the danger from the enemy, particularly Tories, but also distrust of the reliability of some of the other troops.

McKendry (see Proceedings of Massachusetts Historical Society, Second Series, Vol. II, page 442) under date of May 14th wrote: "Col. Alden's Regt. mustered. A great day of rejoicing at Albany for the news received from France. Fired 52 cannon, 3 volleys from small arms. Gen. Conway had the command."

The news was that of the French alliance, made more than four months before, indicating how slowly news travelled in those days.

Beginning in the Wyoming Valley (near what is now Wilkesbarre, Pa.) July 1st, 1778, and sweeping up through Central New York, which was then the extreme western frontier, occurred a series of terrible Indian massacres,

* This was Daniel Morgan, formerly Captain, now Colonel, who had been a prisoner with Ebenezer Tolman at Quebec.

which the historian Van Tyne well calls "the surpassing horror of the Revolution." What happened to the fleeing settlers may be illustrated by one incident mentioned by Prof. Fiske. "A hundred women and children perished of fatigue and starvation in trying to cross the swamp which has since been known as the "Shades of Death," &c.

Appeals came in for help and, on July 10th, Kimball's regiment, under command of Lieut.-Col. Stacia, Col. Alden being on leave of absence, left Albany in great haste under orders to proceed to Fort Stanwix (also called Fort Schuyler), about one hundred and twenty miles away, near the present site of Rome, New York.

It is interesting to note that the last thing they did before starting was to turn out, on July 9th, and subdue another regiment that had mutinied. As McKendry records it: "Col. Alden's Regt. Mustered. Turned out and took Col. Wheelock's Regt. for refusing their duty."

They reached Fort Stanwix at 6 A. M. on the 18th, evidently having driven cattle along with them, for McKendry wrote, on the 16th, "Capt. Ballard's cow broke her leg."

Hardly had they begun to enjoy "fresh Sammon brought to this fort by Indians, Six Shillings per sammon £ money," when "An express arrived from the Southard, another from Albany, with orders from Gen. Stark for Col. Stacy to march his Regt. to Cherry Valley."

The latter place was a settlement about sixty miles west from Albany.

What they found there is thus stated by Capt. Warren:

"Friday, July 24th, 1778. Soon after we began our march came on a heavy rain. About four o'clock arrived at the garrison, which was a meeting house picketed in, with a large number of distressed inhabitants crowded in, men, women and children; drew some rum for the men and placed them in their several quarters. The inhabitants received us with the greatest tokens of joy and respect, and it was like a general gaol delivery; they began to take the fresh air and move out into the nearest houses from their six weeks confinement in that place.

Saturday, July 25. This morning shifted my linen and went out, having a very good night's rest, after our fatigue, having marched now one hundred and eighty miles, with stopping but two days during the whole march.

Sunday, July 26th. This morning, after roll call, went down to the garrison, and from thence to the Colonel's quarters; about eleven o'clock returned to the garrison, where we had a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, from the words 'Be of good courage and play the man for our people, and to the cities of our God, and the Lord will do what seemeth him good.'"*

Rev. Mr. Johnson was a refugee who had sought protection while his sons enlisted, and scouted. Quartermaster McKendry hastened to pay his respects to the regular local parson: "Went to Rev. Mr. Dunlops, and drank sillabub while discoursing the old Gentleman about sundry affairs."

On July 30th Col. Alden arrived. On August 1st General Ten Broeck, in a letter to Governor Clinton, writes: "I forgot to mention that Alden's regiment is at Cherry Valley, and that it consists of something better than 200 men, as I am informed."

This little force had an immense territory to patrol—a territory swarming

* 2 Sam., 10th chap., 12th verse.

with Indians and Tories.* They passed a summer full of great anxiety, activity and danger. October 9th leading citizens of Cherry Valley sent to the General in command of the district a statement of the power of their enemies, saying: "Some of these Villans have been apprehended at the Butternuts and elsewhere on the Frontiers since Col. Alden came amongst us, and by his means, who has acted with great activity and prudence in Subduing these Rebbels to the States," but adding that his force was entirely too small and asking that it be increased.

Meanwhile, the life of the garrison had its cheerful side as well as that which was tragic. For example, McKendry, after an account of the destruction by the enemy of the village of German Flats—44 houses being burned—and the turning out of the regiment in pursuit, follows it with these, to him, important items:

"October 6, 1778. Col. Stacy and Capt. Ballard had a horse race. Col. Stacy won the bet."

October 15. "Went to the Salt Springs in the evening. Wet my appointment—Wine—28 dollars."

October 23. "Sergt. Elijah Dickerman and Letty Gibbens was Married at the house of Jams Richey in Cherry Valley by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, late of Tunadilla. Drank seven Gall. Wine."

Though the writer was undoubtedly a valiant man with the flagon, probably the other guests assisted him on the "seven Gall."

The "appointment" which he found it so expensive to "wet" was that of "Ensign" in Kimball's company. Prior to that he had been Regimental Quartermaster. His diary shows that he had always been particularly intimate and friendly with Captain Lane. From the time of their arrival at Cherry Valley they had boarded together at the house of Mr. Richey "20 rods from the fort." Sergeant Dickerman was a fellow townsman of McKendry's from Stoughton, Mass. Very likely the latter knew how much wine was consumed from the fact that he contributed it. The young couple survived the disaster that came a few days later.

Colonel Alden was a great grandson of "Why-don't-you-speak-for-yourself John" Alden and Priscilla, of Plymouth, a man of fine character and of considerable ability, but some thought him of too trustful a nature and too much of a gentleman to deal properly with Indians and Tories.

Perhaps they were right. At any rate, on November 10th, the scouting parties having been killed or captured, so no alarm came in, the place was surprised by a force numbering over 800 men, composed of about 50 British regulars, 250 Tories and 500 Indians. The attack came so suddenly and with such violence that most of those caught outside the stockade could not reach it.

Colonel Alden and 13 soldiers were killed, scalped and otherwise mutilated. Lieut. Colonel Stacia, 4 other officers and 11 soldiers were captured, stripped naked and driven before the Indians into the forest; 32 civilians, mostly women and children, were killed on the spot in the most barbarous manner; 60 more taken prisoners; every building outside the stockade burned, including 20 houses and 25 barns; all live stock driven off and all provisions destroyed or

* New York furnished over 15,000 men to the British Army, and had in addition over 8,000 organized Tory militia.

carried away. The details of the massacre were as horrible as anything in the annals of Indian warfare.

The aged wife of Rev. Samuel Dunlap was in the house of her married daughter, Mrs. Robert Wells. All the people at that place were killed. Mrs. Dunlap's body was hacked to pieces, one leg and an arm cut off, &c. Little Aaron, a Mohawk Indian who had been befriended by Mr. Dunlap, saved the minister's life for the time being, but he died of grief shortly after. Colonel Stacia was held a captive for over four years.

Prof. Fiske says: "Many other atrocious things were done in the course of the year, but the affairs of Wyoming and Cherry Valley made a deeper impression than any of the others. Among the victims there were many refined gentlemen and ladies well known in the Northern States, and this was especially true at Cherry Valley."

Major Daniel Whiting rallied the survivors and they defended the so-called "fort" for two days and finally drove the enemy away.

On November 13th Whiting made an official report, concluding as follows:

"When we were first attacked we had not a pound of bread per man in garrison; had it not been for a barrel of powder and half a box of cartridges belonging to the town our ammunition would have failed us. One scout, a Sergt. and 8 men that went by the Butternuts has not been heard of yet. We have a soldier with his leg broken that is necessary to be amputated. The Surgeon has no instruments."

McKendry always considered the weather the most important thing for entry in his diary. He did not forget it even on the day of the massacre. After faithfully recording the names of his dead comrades he concludes with "a rainy day."

On November 13th Warren wrote: "Brought in the dead. Such a shocking sight my eyes never beheld before of savage and brutal barbarity; to see the husband mourning over his dead wife with four dead children lying by her side, mangled, scalpt and some of their heads, some of their legs and arms cut off, some torn the flesh off their bones by their dogs—12 of one family* killed and 4 of them burnt in the house," &c.

The following year the regiment had its revenge.

There are three muster rolls verified at Cherry Valley which bear Kimball's name. One of them dated February 24, 1779, is headed "Return of men who were in camp on or before August 15, 1777, and who have not been absent subsequently, except on furlough," &c. On the basis of this the General Court of Mass. paid each man a small gratuity, which doubtless was welcome, as at this time the regular pay of a Private, nominally $6.66 a month, was paid in Continental bills that had depreciated till it took ten to be equal to the face value of one. A year's pay, therefore, was only equivalent to about eight dollars in real money.

Before Kimball got through, instead of ten to one, the rate was about fifty to one. At the best, a soldier got hardly more than board and clothes. Enough is recorded here to indicate what kind of board, and how many clothes. (See William Parker.)

Calling their quarters "Fort Alden" they remained there under the com-

* The family of Robert Wells

mand of Major Whiting until the following summer. Meanwhile, McKendry's diary has many interesting items, for example:

February 26, 1779. "Moved from ye meeting house into ye Blockhouse, west end of ye Fort, with Capt. Lane and ye Company."

April 9. "Capt. Lane marched from Fort Alden to Fort Schuyler with 2 Subs., 3 Serj., 3 Corpls., 52 Rank and file."

April 29. "This day Capt. Lane arrived in Fort Alden from his Scout. Informs that he had been with a party under the command of Col. Van Scoik, and cut off three Indian Castles at Onidauga. Killed 60, took 33 prisoners, burned 47 houses and large quantities of corn—not one of the parties killed."

Campbell's Annals of Tyron County, page 151, makes the astounding statement that this expedition returned to Fort Schuyler in just five and a half days after leaving it; during which time they had been in two engagements and "had marched *one hundred and eighty miles.*" With other booty they brought back 100 captured muskets.

The person whom McKendry calls Van "Scoik," was Colonel Goose Van Schaick. May 10, 1779, in the Continental Congress, it was "Resolved—that the thanks of Congress be presented to Colonel Van Schaick and the officers and soldiers under his command for their activity and good conduct in the late expedition against the Onondagas."

Greater events of the same kind were at hand. On June 14 came an order to hold themselves in readiness to march at an hour's notice, and on the 18th, at 11 A. M., they left Cherry Valley behind for ever and hastened to join an army coming up the Susquehanna with the purpose of punishing the "Six Nations," so-called, *i. e.,* the great Indian tribes—Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Senecas, Cayugas and Tuscaroras, so thoroughly as to break their power forever.

The leader of the enterprise was Major-General John Sullivan of New Hampshire. One of his Brigade Commanders was Enoch Poor of New Hampshire, and Kimball's regiment was placed under Poor's command, together with the First, Second and Third New Hampshire.

There is not space to describe in detail what happened. It is enough to say that the expedition was a great success. It swept through the entire Indian country, leaving desolation in its wake. Poor's Brigade especially distinguished itself, on August 29th, in the principal engagement, called the battle of "Newtown", near the present city of Elmira, where the State of New York has erected a magnificent memorial monument. In an address, delivered on its dedication, Rev. David Craft, among other things said, "The horrors of Wyoming, of Cherry Valley, of the West Branch, of Minisink and German Flats, were fresh in their recollections, and many of the soldiers had lost some of their nearest relatives in these strifes, where savage hordes and Tory outlaws held high carnival. There is a tradition that, as Poor's men began the charge up the hill, some one said: *'Remember Wyoming',* which was taken up along the line as the watchword and battle-cry of the hour."

Whether this is true or not, it is certain that the Indians and Tories never forgot "Newtown".

Lieut. Col. Henry Dearborn,* commanding the Third New Hampshire,

* A fellow prisoner with Ebenezer Tolman at Quebec. Also at Bunker Hill. See Samuel Griffin.

kept a diary which has been preserved. The following entry, made September 14th, evidently under the effects of deep emotion, is significant of the kind of warfare in which they were engaged,—"Here we found the bodies of Lt. Boyd, and one other man Mangled in a most horrid manner. From appearances it seems they ware tyed to two trees near which they lay & first severely whippt them. Their tongues were cut out, their finger-nails plucked off, their eyes plucked out, then speered & cut in many places & after they had vented their hellish spite & rage, cut off their heads and left them. This was a most horrid spectacle to behold & from which we are taught the necessity of fighting those more than devils to the last moment rather than fall into their hands alive."

McKendry describes the same thing more coherently, with further sickening details.

In Col. Cilley's First New Hampshire was Private Nathan Davis of Hanover, who wrote an interesting account of the campaign, which has been printed in the *Historical Magazine* for 1868, at page 205.

Of a lighter character is his description of what happened as they again approached the edge of civilization, *i. e.,* the fort at Tioga Point:

"Our clothing consisted of a short rifle frock, vest, tow trousers, shoes, stockings and blanket. Marching nearly the whole time in the woods among the thick underbrush, it may well be supposed that we had but little left of our clothing on our return to the garrison. Our feet were many of them bare and bleeding. * * * When we came within a few miles of the fort an express was sent to the garrison for provisions. We halted until the provisions came, and with it a few kegs of whiskey. We remained here a day or two to recruit our almost famished bodies, when we again struck our tents and paraded, ready to march at the given signal. Immediately we received orders to stack our arms and every man to powder his head as white as the snow on the Alpine Mountains. This order could not be complied with, as there was not an ounce of flour among the whole of us. The Commander being informed of it, he sent posthaste to the garrison for a horseload of flour. In the meantime every man was ordered to shave his face and to put an evergreen bough or bush on his hat. The flour having arrived, and being distributed, we immediately fell to whitening each other's sconces. No one could be exempt from this duty. Not a negro or mulatto could escape the honor of a white top to his neck. And of all the spectacles ever exhibited to the eyes of man! The sight of nearly 3,000 men in rags and tatters, nearly naked, with the remaining part of their garments hanging in streamers behind them, must have afforded merriment even to the most grave and sanctimonious. When our officers came on the ground and beheld our truly ludicrous appearance they could not suppress the loud laugh; and even our Chaplain forgot his gravity."

On October 15th, they reached Easton, Pa., and the narrative continues:

"While here we were ordered to attend divine service under arms, in a large meadow, to return thanks for the signal success of the expedition and the unsurpassed health of the troops. A discourse was delivered by the Rev. Ira Evans of New Hampshire."

Probably Evans was the man that "forgot his gravity." Some say his front name was Israel instead of Ira.

McKendry records the long march that followed, through Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and from there up to the Highlands of the Hudson.

"Nov. 15. This morning the Regt. marched on and crossed the river and arrived in Westpoint 2 o'clock P. M. and encampt in the bush one mile and 1/2 down the River—came 8 miles.

"Nov. 16. Some snow tonight.

"Nov. 17. Cold and blustering weather."

And then began what General Griffin well describes as "that terrible winter of privation and famine." (See Samuel Scripture, Jr.)

McKendry very soon gives a hint of it,—

"Nov. 22d. *This is the fifth day that the troops have drew no bread on this Point as there was none.*"

It was the darkest hour of the war. Almost everyone, except Washington, was thoroughly discouraged, and it is not surprising that Arnold thought the game was over, and it was high time to sell out to the enemy. (See Noah Hardy.)

Still, no sooner was Kimball discharged, after three years' service, than he enlisted again for six months.

After the war was over he married Lydia Simmons of Boxford, came to Packersfield, and settled on the place now owned by Mrs. Ellen R. Houghton, south of the farm of Dr. E. N. Hardy, who is one of his descendants. From April 21, 1818, a pension was granted to him.

He died in Nelson, October 18, 1842, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOSHUA KITTREDGE.

Born in Tewksbury, Mass., March 15, 1761, son of Thomas Kittredge, who was also a Revolutionary soldier. He was in the fourth generation from John Kittredge who came from England and settled in Billerica, Mass., prior to 1655.

August 16, 1832, made a pension declaration, now on file at Washington, from which, and the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Rolls, it appears that he served three enlistments, viz.:

1. April 2, 1778, enlisted from Tewksbury in Captain John Moore's Company of Colonel Jonathan Brewer's Regiment of guards and served three months and two days guarding "troops of convention," *i. e.,* prisoners from Burgoyne's army, at Cambridge.

2. October 7, 1779, enlisted in Captain Joshua Leland's Company of guards and was stationed at Cobble Hill near Boston, in the battalion of Major Nathaniel Heath, garrisoning a fort, for upwards of a month.

3. In May, 1780, then living at Amherst, N. H., enlisted at Lyndeborough, N. H. and marched to West Point, N. Y., where he was assigned to Captain McGregor's Company of Colonel Courtland's Regiment. Was selected to join the light infantry under General Lafayette and marched to Elizabeth town and elsewhere in New Jersey. Discharged in November, 1780.

He mentions that his service was "the same year that Arnold escaped from West Point," indicating that he was there at the time.

At sometime prior to 1787, he settled in Packersfield and purchased the farm now occupied by Mr. James E. Ruffle. His first house was at the foot

of the hill near the present ruins of the old mill. Built the house, which is now standing, about 1797, from lumber which he cut and fashioned on the place.

Besides carrying on the farm, operated a saw mill on the place now owned by Mr. Nordstrom.

Died in Nelson, February 18, 1834, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

Was the ancestor of the Kittredge families subsequently living in the town.

SOLOMON KITTREDGE.

Born in Tewksbury, Mass., in 1756; eldest son of Solomon Kittredge, Sr., and in the fourth generation from John Kittredge who came from England and settled in Billerica, Mass., prior to 1655. In 1775 Solomon was living at Amherst, N. H.

His military record was an interesting one. As shown by his pension declaration, verified April 24, 1818, corroborated and supplemented by the New Hampshire Rolls, he served three enlistments, viz:—

1. May 17, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Josiah Crosby's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment, and he swears that he "was in the Battle of Bunker Hill so called" June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

2. On his discharge in January, 1776, reenlisted for one year in Captain Daniel Wilkin's Company in Colonel Timothy Bedel's Regiment of the New Hampshire line.

The regiment was raised for guarding the frontier along the Connecticut River. Hardly was it organized before news came of the disaster to the expedition, under Arnold and Montgomery, against Quebec (See Ebenezer Tolman), and they were ordered to join the Northern Continental Army in New York for reinforcing our army in Canada.

They marched to Ticonderoga, thence to St. Johns, where they were engaged, and finally had another battle with a superior force of British and Indians at a place called "The Cedars," about forty-five miles southwest from Montreal.

Col. Bedel was absent at the time and the subordinate officer, Major Butterfield, in command, was considered by his men a coward when, against their protests, he surrendered. The promise of protection to the prisoners, made by the British officers, was promptly broken, and they were left to be plundered, tortured and in some instances killed by the Indians. Those who remained alive were taken to an island in a lake near the "Two Mountains" where they were kept naked, without shelter, and almost without food, for about ten days, till General Arnold succeeded in securing their exchange.

Some of them had the smallpox at the time. The Indians took their clothes with the others and caught the disease therefrom, with disastrous results. This may have salved the feelings of the sufferers a little.

In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 14, at page 476, is the following petition, signed by Kittredge, and twenty-two others:—

> "To the Honorable the Council and House of Representatives to be convened at Exeter, in New Hampshire on the 10th day of March, 1779—

The Humble Petition and Remonstrance of the Company Commanded by Capt. Daniel Wilkins, in Col. Beedel's Regt. in Canada, humbly sheweth that on ye 19th of May, 1776, we unhappily fell into the hands of our unnatural and savage Enemy at the Cedars in Canada, when Major Butterfield, our commanding officer, Capitulated with Capt. Foster of the British Army to the great grief and surprise of said company, on the following terms, viz: that we surrendered ourselves as prisoners of war, and was to deliver up our arms which accordingly we did, and we was to have our packs and Baggage,—and Capt. Foster Engaged not to suffer the savages to plunder or abuse us, nor suffer the British troops so to do. But contrary to the Rules of War, they inhumanly without regard to their promise, suffered the savages to rob and plunder us of our packs and baggage, and strip us of our clothes off our backs, and left us entirely naked. In this deplorable condition we were left in an enemies' country without money, clothing or friends that could contribute to our relief.—Therefore your humble petitioners humbly pray that your honors would take the matter under consideration and grant to each prisoner a sum something adequate to the loss he sustained, and your Petitioners will gratefully acknowledge the favor and as in duty bound will ever pray."

Kittredge received, in response to such petition, an appropriation for his clothes of six pounds, sixteen shillings, sixpence. This came however more than three years after he lost them. It does not appear how his temporary embarrassment was relieved.

Served out his term and was discharged at Stillwater in January, 1777.

3. July 19, 1777, enlisted in Captain John Bradford's Company of Colonel Moses Nichols Regiment raised to reinforce the Northern Army, gathering at Stillwater, to oppose the advance of Burgoyne. In his pension declaration he says "I was in Bennington Battle so called." His company there played a very important part. (See Richard Farwell.)

About this time took up his residence in Packersfield for there is a record in the Town books that a son Solomon, Jr., was born to him there September 28, 1778, and a daughter in 1780.

Lived on what was subsequently known as the James Clark place in the northeast quarter.

Later, probably before 1800, moved to Mount Vernon, where he died October 22, 1845, aged 90 years, 2 months and 19 days.

He frequently visited his relatives in Nelson, descendants of Joshua Kittredge. The late Russell H. Kittredge could recall one such visit in his own boyhood.

JOSHUA LAWRENCE.

Born in Pepperell, Mass., April 18, 1753. Son of Joseph and younger brother of Martin Lawrence.

In Captain John Nutting's Company of Minute Men in Colonel William Prescott's Regiment that marched from Pepperell, Mass., on the Lexington Alarm on April 19, 1775.

April 25, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain John Nutting's Company of Colonel William Prescott's Regiment. His brother Martin was in the same company. Probably both were at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Under date of November 26, 1773, Breed Batcheller deeded to Joshua Lawrence of Pepperell, land in the Northeast Quarter of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield).

Lawrence took up his residence in Packersfield a few years later, and is shown in the U. S. Census of 1790. He married Ruth, daughter of David Nims, and eventually settled near Roxbury Center. Died May 29, 1827, and is buried in the Roxbury Cemetery.

MARTIN LAWRENCE.

Born in Pepperill or Groton, Mass., May 17, 1751. Brother of Joshua.

A member of Capt. John Nutting's Company of Col. William Prescott's Regiment of Minute Men which marched on the 19th of April, 1775. Service 6 days.

April 25, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Nutting's Company of Colonel Prescott's Regiment. Residence given as Packersfield. On Company return dated Cambridge, October 2, 1775, reported "sick and absent."

Was probably in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Was living in Packersfield at the time of the U. S. Census of 1790. Settled on what is now known as the Barstow place, north of the Burnap place.

He died February 6, 1822, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOHN LE BOURVEAU.

One of the earliest settlers, not later than 1771.

In 1774 had 13 acres cleared, 5 more cut and had erected a "Pole House," which he occupied with his family.

A member of the Board of Selectmen, chosen March 15, 1774, and of the committee on correspondence, chosen January 20, 1775.

Was probably one of the 27 that marched from Packersfield April 21, 1775, in response to the Lexington Alarm.

Soon afterwards moved to Keene, evidently prior to April, 1776, as his name does not appear among the Packersfield signers of the Association Test.

Member of Captain John Houghton's Company of Colonel Baldwin's Regiment sent to reinforce the Continental army in New York in 1776.

Member of Captain David Howlet's Company, out of Colonel Ashley's Regiment of Militia which marched from Keene to reinforce the Continental Army at Ticonderoga, in June, 1777.

Died in Keene, March 15, 1796.

JONATHAN LOVEJOY.

Born in Hollis, N. H., July 3, 1754.

Enlisted from Hollis in November or December, 1775, in Captain Noah Worcester's Company, part of a force of 2,000 men raised by New Hampshire to take the place of the "eight months men" whose terms were expiring. Served in siege of Boston until its evacuation about the middle of March, 1776.

No roll of this company containing the names of all the men is known to exist. Lovejoy's name is given in History of Hollis by S. T. Worcester, page 178.

Came to Packersfield in 1791 and settled on what is now known as the Livermore place.

Died there July 21, 1825, and buried in cemetery on the Town Common.

JOHN McRIAN.

In 1777 reported as having enlisted from Packersfield for three years Continental service "in Captain Smith's Company belonging to the Train" (See Solomon Fairley).

See N. H. State Papers Vol. 14, page 576.

Martha McRian, widow, was living in Packersfield in 1779.

BANNISTER MAYNARD.

Born in Shrewsbury, Mass., April 5, 1761. During the war living at Templeton, Mass.

1. In Captain Josiah Wilder's Company of Colonel Nathan Sparhawk's Regiment, commanded by Major Daniel Clapp. Enlisted July 4, 1778. Service 13 days at Rutland Barracks.

2. In Captain Jonathan Houghton's Company of Colonel Josiah Whitney's Regiment raised for service in Rhode Island, July 31, 1778, to September 14, 1778.

3. His name also appears in list of nine months men for Continental Army mustered July 2, 1779, by Thomas Newhall, Muster Master of Worcester County. In Captain Wilder's Company of Col. Grout's Regiment; age 17, stature 5 ft. 8 in.; marched to Springfield July 8, 1779.

Came to Packersfield about 1786. Lived on what was afterwards called the George Dodge place, west of the lead mine place now owned by Mr. Elliot. Removed to Templeton, Mass., where he died June 7, 1827.

DAVID MARSHALL.

Came to Monadnock No. 6, just prior to 1773. In 1774 had 2 acres cleared, 8 more cut down and a "Pole House" which he occupied with his family. Located in the Southeast Quarter.

April 23, 1775, enlisted in Captain Ezra Towne's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment for eight months. At battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Signed the Association Test in Packersfield, April, 1776.

JOSEPH MASON.

One of the early settlers. Lived in South East Quarter. In 1774 had 12 acres cleared, 10 more cut over, a "Board" house, a grist mill, and a family. Elected "Deer Rive" March 15, 1774.

Probably one of the twenty-seven men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield April 21, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm.

Signer of the "Association Test" April, 1776.

Member of Captain Salmon Stone's Company in Colonel Nichol's Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, which marched from Rindge and towns adjacent in July, 1777, and joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater. In battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. Service from July 21 to September 25th. (See Richard Farwell.)

JOSIAH MELVILLE (Melvin.)

Was descended from John Melville (or Melvin, as the name was commonly corrupted), a Scotchman who, about 1675, settled in Charlestown, Mass., and about 1695 removed to Concord, Mass., where his great grandson, the subject of this sketch, was born August 24, 1758.

The father of the latter was also named Josiah. His mother was Lydia, daughter of Colonel James Barrett of Concord.

The war of the Revolution is generally considered as having begun on April 19, 1775. Of all the men who ever lived in Nelson, Melville was the first to see the British troops in hostile array, anticipating, by perhaps an hour or two, William Barker of Acton and Ezra Smith of Sudbury. He saw them about eight o'clock in the forenoon, but first heard of them some six hours earlier, when began the events of the most exciting day of his life.

The relations between Great Britain and her American Colonies had been going from bad to worse for more than ten years and for two years far seeing men had believed a peaceable solution of the estrangement no longer possible.

September 5, 1774, the First Continental Congress, of delegates from all the colonies, met in Philadelphia. The First Provincial Congress of Massachusetts met in Concord October 11th of the same year, and from that time on Concord was a center of agitation.

The proceedings of the Provincial Congress were secret, but we now know that their deliberations were almost entirely on the subject of procuring military supplies.

A second Provincial Congress met at Concord, February 1st, 1775. On February 9th they issued an address, "To the Inhabitants of the Massachusetts Bay", in which they said—"Though we deprecate a rupture with the Mother State, yet we must urge to every preparation for your necessary defense".

A Committee of Safety was appointed with John Hancock as Chairman, and also a Committee on Supplies. On February 1st both Committees, in joint session, by unanimous vote, decided that the Committee on Supplies should at once purchase military stores sufficient, with those already on hand, to supply an army of fifteen thousand men.

This work was entrusted to Melville's grandfather, James Barrett, Colonel of the Middlesex militia, who was a member of the Congress and a man of great influence and vigor, despite the fact that he was sixty-five years old and so lame as scarcely to be able to walk.

Papers of Barrett, still in existence, show that, within the next six weeks, he had made great progress in his task. For example—in one consignment he received, from David Cheever of Charlestown, ten tons of musket balls and cartridges. He also had a great quantity of provisions and other supplies, all of which were stored in various places in Concord.

At Concord, too, Barrett had a mill where he made muskets and carriages for cannon. There too Timothy Wheeler was working night and day grinding grain and Josiah Melville, Sr., was manufacturing saltpeter for gunpowder.

Despite all precautions so much could not go on without the British in Boston getting wind of it. On the other hand close watch was kept to detect signs of any movement of their troops.

Secret societies, known as "Sons of Liberty" were organized who made it their business to watch for and report hostile preparations, and all over

New England other organizations known as "Minute Men" were pledged to respond instantly to any alarm. At Concord some of the minute men kept their muskets constantly within reach, even carrying them to meeting on Sunday.

On April 15, 1775, the Congress at Concord took an adjournment until May 10th, but, on April 18th, apprehensions of danger became so acute that a call went out for immediate reassembling. That very night the British marched from Boston. The object of the expedition was to apprehend Colonel Barrett and capture and destroy his stores.

On the afternoon of the 18th the Committee of Safety met with Barrett, at Concord, and made plans for the removal of a portion of such property and its distribution in nine other towns. Illustrating the difficulty of doing this it may be noted that to Sudbury alone they ordered sent 50 barrels of beef, 100 barrels of flour, 20 casks of rice, 15 hogsheads of molasses, 10 hogsheads of rum and 500 pounds of candles.

At almost the very hour they were in session a hostler at a tavern in Boston heard an officer remark "There will be Hell to pay to-morrow", and reported it to his friend William Dawes, who told his fellow Son of Liberty, Paul Revere, and the latter lost no time in bringing it to the attention of Dr. Joseph Warren of the Committee of Safety. Before dark Warren received similar hints from other sources and became alert. In the evening there were signs of movement in the garrison, and he correctly surmised what was on foot.

Two roads led to Concord: one by way of Roxbury neck and the other by Charleston ferry and Cambridge. Without waiting to see which route would be taken, or even for the actual start, Warren dispatched Dawes by way of Roxbury and, a half hour later, he sent Revere from Charleston, when, by signal lights from the tower of the old North Church, he learned of

> "The muster of men at the barrack door,
> The sound of arms and the tramp of feet,
> And the measured tread of the grenadiers,
> Marching down to their boats on the shore."*

Every schoolboy knows Longfellow's stirring poem "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere." Few ever heard of Dawes yet his work was fully as important as that of Revere. As a matter of fact neither of them ever reached Concord.

Revere mounted his horse just about 11 o'clock, while the British troops were marching down to the foot of the common. Just as he was starting on his mission of alarm Richard Devans, one of the Committee of Safety, informed him that as he rode in from Lexington after dark that evening he had met ten British officers, all well mounted and armed, going up the road. It subsequently appeared that just such a ride as Revere's had been anticipated and a number of such parties had been sent in advance to head it off.

He ran into one of them before he had gone two miles but managed to evade it and alarm every house as far as Lexington, which he reached between one and two o'clock, and there delivered his message to John Hancock, and another prominent member of the Congress, Samuel Adams, who were sleeping at the parsonage of Rev. Jonas Clarke.

* From "Paul Revere's Ride," by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

At the parson's door he was warned by a minute man on guard not to make so much noise lest he awaken the family who had just retired.

"Noise," shouted he, "You'll have noise enough before long. The regulars are coming out."

Revere tarried a little to rest his horse while he took a drink at the tavern and, before he left, Dawes, who had ridden about 17 miles to Revere's 12, came up and they decided to go on together to Concord six miles away.

Young Dr. Samuel Prescott, of Concord, who had been making a very late call on a Miss Mulliken, of Lexington, to whom he was engaged, volunteered to ride with them, show them the way and vouch for their responsibility.

They proceeded about a third of the distance, Revere ahead, Prescott next and Dawes considerably behind, when two men sprang out of the darkness by the roadside and ordered them to halt. Dawes turned back, Revere and Prescott tried to ride down their assailants but two more came to the latter's aid and at the muzzle of their pistols the riders were forced into a pasture where six others joined them. It was the party of ten British officers of whom Revere had previously been warned.

Mr. Longfellow to the contrary notwithstanding, here ended "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," and all the further riding Dawes did was back toward Boston. Revere was kept a prisoner until about daylight when he was compelled to swap his horse for a much poorer one and allowed to depart in the direction from which he came.

Prescott however made another break and, in the darkness, being thoroughly familiar with the locality, managed to slip through the hands of his captors and make his way, by a roundabout route, to Concord.

Most of the people there first learned the news a little before three o'clock, when Prescott came in and informed Josiah's cousin, young Amos "Melvin," one of the minute men, who was on guard at the Court House, and the latter fired his musket and wildly rang the meeting house bell.

Immediately there was great excitement. The people assembled. The men organized for the work before them while Rev. William Emerson (grandfather of Ralph Waldo Emerson), the patriotic clergyman, mingled with his people and gave counsel and comfort to the terrified women and children.

Lossing, in his "Field Book of the Revolution," speaking of what then happened, says—"The military operations were under the able management of Colonel James Barrett, while the whole male population, and some women, aided in removing the stores to a place of safety in distant woods."

This may be a rather strong statement but certainly the Barrett and Melville families worked and they had help enough so the stupendous task was accomplished and when the British marched in between seven and eight o'clock there was practically nothing that they could find.

Young Josiah was then a tow headed, undersized lad of sixteen. He is said to have worked with his cousin Jimmie Barrett, aged fourteen. With oxen and cart they helped take load after load, each to a different place in the woods, and covered them with pine boughs. Going back and forth the boys ran on each side of the oxen goading them into a trot.

Besides this, as they were considered too young to fight, they helped the women make cartridges.

Some of the stores did not go very far. At the Barrett place there were cannon hidden in the hay mow and under manure piles. What was apparently a garden was hastily ploughed. After one furrow was completed muskets were dropped into it and another furrow turned over them, and so on. The oxen were not detached from the plough until after the red coats were in sight.

About the same time the last of the musket balls were being put into the bottom of barrels in the attic with a covering of feathers above them.

For an account of how the British marched from Boston to Lexington, and thence to Concord, the North Bridge and, finally, to Colonel Barrett's house, see William Barker.

Between eight and nine o'clock they came and the venerable Mrs. Barrett was left alone to meet them.

There were three companies of them, under Captain Parsons, who was fairly courteous. The premises were searched but nothing found except a few gun carriages which were taken out in the road in front of the house and set on fire.

The troops, having had no sleep the night before and having marched some 20 miles on a hot day, were much exhausted and Mrs. Barrett was requested to supply their wants. She was in no position to refuse and gave them what food and drink there was in the house. Most of them offered to pay but she refused saying—"We are commanded to feed our enemy if he hunger." Some however insisted and tossed the money into her lap. She could only exclaim—"It is the price of blood."

Before long the firing at the North Bridge was heard and her visitors hastily departed. (See William Barker.)

Thus the stores were saved and the very next day the Committee on Supplies began to forward them to the patriot army assembling about Boston.

The fact that young Josiah and his father had the same name makes it impossible to say which was in the garrison at Ticonderoga in 1776. One or the other was there. Josiah was then 17 years of age and his father 49. It is more probable that it was the boy.

It is almost certain that Josiah, Jr., was the "Josiah Melvin" of Concord, who enlisted July 7, 1777, in Captain Abishai Brown's Company of Colonel John Robinson's Regiment and served for five months and twenty-eight days on the Rhode Island Campaign.

"Josiah Melvin, *Junior,*" was a member of Captain George Minot's Company of Concord Militia doing service in 1778.

"Josiah Melvin, *Junior,*" of Concord appears on numerous rolls as one of the "Six months men," enlisted in the Continental Army July 10, 1780. His description is—"age 21 years; stature five feet five inches; complexion light." He became a member of Captain Belcher Hancock's Company of Colonel Thomas Nixon's Regiment, Sixth Massachusetts Line, and was stationed most of the time with Washington's Army at West Point. There, at the same time, were Noah Hardy, David Kimball, Philip Atwood, Joshua Kittredge, John Breed and probably others who afterwards lived in Nelson.

Melville was there at the time of Arnold's treason and when the unfortunate Major Andre was hung he was one of the guards that marched him to the scaffold. (See David Kimball and Noah Hardy.)

Sometime prior to 1790, he moved to Packersfield and lived at first in a small house north of the present buildings on the brow of the hill above the village. In a shed attached he operated a small store.

About 1795, he built the house which is now standing and, on the opposite side of the road, a large store which became the center of trade for a region many miles about and was a great resort for old soldiers.

It is said that when they got together there was no event of importance in the whole war that some resident of the town could not describe from having actually participated in it.

In later days, when comparatively few veterans were left, an eager listener, as they fought their battles over again, was Simon Goodell Griffin, (grandson of Samuel Griffin and Nehemiah Wright, both of whom were at Bunker Hill), who, as the result perhaps of such inspiration, became New Hampshire's most distinguished soldier in the Civil War. Griffin was born in 1824 and was therefore twenty-eight years old before Samuel Scripture, the last survivor of the Revolution, died in 1852.

Melville died in Nelson, January 8, 1818, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOHN MORSE.

Born in 1720.

Living in Packersfield at the time of war broke out and signed the Association Test in April, 1776.

As he was over military age, it is probable that he did not do field service, though some of the records attributed to John M. Morse may belong to him.

Died in Packersfield, January 12, 1806, in his 87th year, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common. (See John M. Morse.)

JOHN M. MORSE.

In the Pension Bureau at Washington is the original "Muster Roll of a Company of Men Commanded by Capt. Othniel Thomas in Col. Runnel's Regt. of New Hampshire Militia 1781" in which appears—"John Mors Morse, rank Corporal, town Packersfield, engaged September 20th, marched October 25."

At a town meeting held in Packersfield December 13, 1781, it was "Voted to raise Two men as a Town to Serve in the Army for the Space of three months—John Morse, John French, Jr.—Voted to raise Twenty-four pounds silver to pay said men."

"John Morse" was a corporal in Captain Josiah Parker's Company raised out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that joined the Northern Army at Ticonderoga in 1776. That it was the Packersfield man is suggested by the presence of Henry Bemis and James Phillips in the same company.

The name John Morse also appears on several other rolls. Apparently there were persons of that name living at the same time in Packersfield and Dublin.

"John Morse" was a member of Captain John Mellin's Company which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga on the alarm in June and July, 1777. Among the Packersfield

men in this Company were James Bancroft, Oliver Wright, John Farwell, Thomas K. Breed, Joseph Stanhope and Seth Cobb. (See John Morse.)

JOHN SCARLETT NEWHALL.

One of the early settlers of Monadnock, No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson). Came probably before 1772. His name appears on the records of meetings of Proprietors in 1773. In 1774 had 4 acres cleared, 2 more cut over and a "pole" house which he occupied with his family.

Signer of the "Association Test" April, 1776.

Settled on the hill southeast of the Darius Farwell place.

JOHN NEWMAN.

March 21, 1781, enlisted from Packersfield in the Continental Army for three years.

JONATHAN NICHOLS.

Came from Princeton, Mass.

One of the early settlers of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) located in the "Prospect Hill," later called City Hill, region in the northeast quarter. His name appears in the records of meetings of Proprietors in 1773. In 1774 had 7 acres cleared, 7 more cut over, a house, and a family.

Probably one of the 27 men who marched from Packersfield for Cambridge, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, April 21, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm.

Signer of the Association Test, April, 1776.

Member of Captain Elisha Whitcomb's Company of Col. Timothy Bedel's Regiment of Volunteers raised by order of Congress for an expedition against Canada. Service from February 6th to about April 1st, 1777.

In Captain Samuel Wright's Company in Colonel Nichol's Regiment and General Stark's Brigade of Militia, which company marched from Winchester, N. H., and joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater, July 23rd and September 24th, 1777. Probably at battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

Also, perhaps, member of Colonel Jonathan Chase's Regiment of Militia which marched from Cornish in September, 1777, and joined the Continental Army under General Gates at Saratoga.

Probably did not remain long in Packersfield.

BENJAMIN NURSE.

Born in Reading, Mass., December 9, 1716. Came to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) about 1772 and settled in the West part of the town near the Esek Phillips' place.

Chosen member of Committee of Inspection September 25, 1775, the other members being Eleazer Twitchell, John French, Amos Skinner and Abijah Brown.

Signer of the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

On account of his age probably did not do much field service. See Benjamin Nurse, Jr.

Died in Littleton, N. H., June 20, 1806.

BENJAMIN NURSE, JR.

Born in Rutland, Mass., February 7, 1747. Son of Benjamin Nurse, Sr.

Signer of the Association Test, in Packersfield, April, 1776.

Member of Company commanded by Captain Davis Howlet, raised out of Colonel Ashley's regiment of Militia, which company marched from Keene to reinforce the Continental Army at Ticonderoga, June, 1777. Service June 29 to July 11.

Member of Captain John Mellin's Company which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga in July, 1777. Service July 6 to July 11.

(Note—Obviously these two engagements could not have been kept by the same person. One was probably by Nurse, Sr., and the other by Nurse, Jr.)

Member of Captain James Lewis' Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Volunteers, which marched from the State of New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in Rhode Island in August, 1778. Service, August 8th to 28th.

Died in Keene, April 26, 1841.

JONAS NURSE.

Born in Rutland, Mass., July 8, 1757. Son of Benjamin Nurse.

In Captain James Lewis' Company of Colonel Daniel Moor's Regiment of N. H. Volunteers that marched from Marlboro and joined the Continental Army at Saratogo in September, 1777. Service September 28 to October 20, 1777.

In the same company were William Follett, Jonathan Felt, and Samuel Wellman.

Removed to Littleton, N. H., when he died January 31, 1809.

ZEBEDIAH PAINE.

Born in 1752.

At the time of the breaking out of the war, living in Stoutonham (now Sharon), Mass.

In Captain Josiah Pratt's Company of Colonel Lemuel Robinson's Regiment which marched on the Lexington Alarm April 19, 1775.

In Captain Josiah Pratt's (Stoutonham) Company of Colonel Gill's Regiment which marched to Roxbury, March 4, 1776, on an alarm.

In Captain Lewis Whitney's Company of Colonel Wheelock's Regiment at Ticonderoga. Shown on rolls dated August 27, 1776, and November 11, 1776. Age then 24 years.

Married Sarah, daughter of Thomas Richardson. (See Richardson.) Marriage intention recorded in Stoutonham, May 24, 1777.

Taxed in Packersfield 1786-1791.

JONATHAN PARKER.

Born in Shrewsbury, Mass., in 1761. A son of Captain Stephen Parker.

Was a member of his father's company in Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment and General Stark's Brigade of New Hampshire Militia, which company marched from New Ipswich, July 19, 1777, and joined the Northern Con-

tinental Army under General Gates at Stillwater. Discharged September 26, 1777. At battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Stephen Parker, David Kimball, and Richard Farwell.)

About 1778, with his father, removed from New Ipswich to Packersfield.

In the History of Temple, N. H., by Henry Ames Blood, page 117, there is a quotation from the report of a committee of the Town appointed to secure soldiers for the Continental Army, as follows:

"June 26, 1780. We, the committee chosen by the Town of Temple, have enlisted Peter Brown and agreed to give him a cow that is worth £4 and seven bushels of corn and 1,320 Continental Dollars down, and 38 bushels of good Indian corn, ye first of January next, and see his bounty and wages equal to what ye court has promised."

The author then adds "Jonathan Parker, of Packersfield, and Jacob Lowell, were hired at the same rate."

At this time the paper Continental money was worth less than two cents on the dollar in silver. Later it depreciated even further. The expression "not worth a Continental" originated in those times, and was full of meaning.

The name of a "Jonathan Parker" appears on other rolls for both Continental and Militia Service. There is little doubt that the Packersfield Parker is meant in some or perhaps all of them, but the identity is not certain.

STEPHEN PARKER.

Born in Shrewsbury, Mass., March 8, 1738; removed to New Ipswich, N. H., in 1765, where he resided at the outbreak of the war, in which he took an active part.

1. His name appears on a roll of men who, in response to the Lexington Alarm, marched from New Ipswich, under Captain Thomas Heald, before daylight, April 20, 1775.

2. Was a Sergeant in Captain Francis Town's Company of Colonel David Gilman's Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire in December, 1776, to reinforce the Continental Army in the State of New York.

3. In July, 1777, raised and was Captain of a large company in Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment of General Stark's Brigade that marched from New Ipswich and joined the Continental Army under General Gates at Stillwater, marching July 19, 1777.

In "The History of New Ipswich," by Frederick Kidder, at page 95, is an interesting description, obtained from an eye witness, of the appearance of the company, which would probably answer equally well as a description of almost any other company in the service. He says:

"To a man they wore small clothes coming down and fastening just below the knee, and long stockings with cowhide shoes, ornamented by large buckles, while not a pair of boots graced the company. The coats and waistcoats were loose and of huge dimensions, with colors as various as the barks of oak, sumach, and other trees of our hills and swamps could make them, and their shirts were all made of flax, and like every other part of the dress, were homespun. On their heads was worn a large round top and broad brimmed hat. Their arms were as various as their costume; here an old solider carried a heavy Queens Arm, with which he had done service at the Conquest of Canada twenty years previous, while by his side walked a

stripling boy with a Spanish fuzee not half its weight or calibre, which his grandfather may have taken at the Havana, while not a few had old French pieces that dated back to the reduction of Louisburg. Instead of the cartridge box a large powder horn was slung under the arm, and occasionally a bayonet might be seen bristling in the ranks. Some of the swords of the officers had been made by our Province blacksmiths, perhaps from some farming utensil; they looked serviceable, but heavy and uncouth. Such was the appearance of the Continentals to whom a well appointed army was soon to lay down their arms. After a little exercising on the old Common, and performing the then popular exploit of 'whipping the snake,' they briskly filed off up the road, by the foot of the Kidder Mountain, and through the Spafford Gap, toward Peterboro, to the tune of 'Over the Hills and Far Away'."

This Company was actually engaged throughout the day in the battle of Bennington, August 16th, and the night after the battle they assisted in guarding the Hessian prisoners, who were confined in the Bennington meeting house. (See Richard Farwell.)

Parker came to Packersfield in 1778. His location has been thus described: "On City Hill on an old road running east from the Wilson place, and where it intersects with another road which runs north and south."

At once became prominent in the town's affairs, being Moderator of a Town Meeting held September 24, 1778.

At a Town Meeting held March 29, 1779, was appointed with John Adams and Stephen Cobb a member of the Committee of Safety.

In New Hampshire State papers, Vol. 16, at page 752, is a certificate dated April 3, 1780, signed by Stephen Parker and Archelus Wilson, Selectmen of Packersfield, showing bounties paid in July, 1779, to Jonathan French, Samuel Wellman and John Taylor, on their enlistment for service in Rhode Island.

Subsequently removed to Walpole, N. H., where he resided with a son till his death, July 4, 1814.

WILLIAM PARKER.

Born in Boston, Mass., August 29, 1755.

March 7, 1777, enlisted from Winchendon, Mass., for three years, in Captain William Warner's Company of Colonel Thomas Marshal's Regiment, Tenth Massachusetts Continental Line. November 1, 1777, promoted Corporal. Discharged at West Point March 7, 1780.

He was one of those never-to-be-forgotten heroes who endured the terrible winter at Valley Forge, Pa., in 1777-78.

While the Burgoyne Campaign was going on in the north (See David Kimball) Washington was fighting the main British army under Howe in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. September 11, 1777, he was badly defeated at Brandywine, and on September 26th Howe captured Philadelphia. On October 4th, at Germantown, Washington was again utterly defeated. In December when he went into winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pa., his army seemed on the verge of dissolution.

Howe had more than 20,000 splendidly equipped, well fed troops. The American Army fell at one time to less than 4,000 naked, starving men. The district was strongly Tory in sentiment and the few patriots did not dare to show their colors. Washington spoke of it as "the enemies country." He had no money, no credit, no means of transportation, and his friends were far away. Some of the accounts of what happened are almost beyond belief. The following quotation from Lecky is very conservative. He says, "The American Army had sunk into a condition of appalling destitution. In September Washington wrote that 'at least 1,000 men were barefooted and have performed the marches in that condition;' and in the depth of winter the misconduct or inefficiency of the commissaries appointed by the Congress, and the general disaffection of the people, had reduced the revolutionary forces to a degree of misery that almost led to their destruction. On one occasion they were three successive days without bread. On another they were two days entirely without meat; on a third, it was announced that there was not in the camp 'a single hoof of any kind to slaughter, and not more than twenty-five barrels of flour.' There was no soap or vinegar. Few men had more than one shirt, many only the moiety of one and some none at all; and, besides a number of men confined in hospitals or farmers' houses for want of shoes, there were, on a single day, 2,898 men, *in the camp,* unfit for duty because they were barefoot and otherwise naked. In the piercing days of December, numbers of the troops were compelled to sit up all night around the fire, having no blankets to cover them, and it became evident that unless a change quickly took place the army must either starve, dissolve or disperse in order to obtain substance in the best manner it could. In three weeks of this month the army, without any fighting, had lost by hardship and exposure near 2,000 men. So large a proportion of the troops were barefoot that their marches might be traced by the blood from their feet. Yet week after week rolled on, and still, amid unabated sufferings, a large proportion of these brave men held together and took up their winter quarters, diminished indeed in numbers, and more than once defeated in the field, but still unbroken and undismayed, within a day's march of a greatly superior army of British soldiers.

"The time was, indeed, well fitted to winnow the chaff from the grain, and few braver and truer men were ever collected around a great commander than those who remained with Washington during the dreary winter in Valley Forge."

Mr. Fisher in his "Struggle for American Independence" states that—"in spite of the famine and destitution, Washington was making the most strenuous exertion to discipline his ragged men and teach them more thoroughly the art of war. To save them from future attacks of the smallpox he actually, in that terrible winter and in their naked condition, had them all inoculated with the disease after the manner of the time. * * *

"On the 23rd of February, Baron Steuben (sent by the French government), an officer who had served with Frederick the Great, arrived and was received with the greatest distinction and rejoicing. He immediately began to drill the troops in the manual of arms, and the ordinary evolutions which are now considered necessary in every village militia company. The patriot army had been fighting for three years without any of this discipline. They

could not wheel to right or left, form into column, or do the simplest thing in a soldierlike way. They moved about and obeyed orders like volunteer Indian fighters, on the frontier, or a sheriff's posse of farmers. Their merit as an army consisted in their belief in the cause, and the intelligent interest which each man willingly gave to the business of fighting. They were ridiculous when they attempted to handle a musket on parade; but when they raised it to their eye and pressed the trigger there was a different story to tell."

The brilliant and lovable young Frenchman, the Marquis de LaFayette, was also there as a volunteer, inspired solely by his love of liberty. That it was not the "Pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war" that attracted either of these distinguished men is evident from the records they have left us. For example: Assistant Inspector Fleury, who was sent to drill a body of Continentals, reported to Steuben,—"Most of the recruits are unprovided with shirts and the only garment they possess is a blanket elegantly twined about them. You may judge, sir, how much this apparel graces their appearance on parade." Steuben himself says, "I saw officers at a grand parade at Valley Forge, mounting guard in a sort of dressing gown made of an old blanket or woolen bed cover." And LaFayette wrote in his Memoirs,—"The unfortunate soldiers were in want of everything; they had neither coats, nor hats, nor shirts, nor shoes; their feet and legs froze till they grew black, and it was often necessary to amputate them."

"Such was the winter that prevailed
Within the crowded, frozen gorge;
Such were the horrors that assailed
The patriot band at Valley Forge,
It was a midnight storm of woes
To clear the sky for Freedom's morn;
And such must ever be the throes,
The hour when Liberty is born."

With the opening of spring, supplies came in and by early summer the troops were in shape to again take the field.

In June the British army, fearing blockade by the French fleet, abandoned Philadelphia, and marched across New Jersey toward New York. Washington pursued them, leaving Valley Forge on June 18th, and overtook them at Monmouth, where a battle was fought June 28, 1778. (See Abijah Wetherbee, and Levi Wilder.)

Parker saw much other service and made an excellent record.

First appears on the tax list of Packersfield in 1790, living on a road now given up, from the outlet of Woodward Pond over the hill to Chesham.

Was pensioned and a leading figure in the gatherings of Veterans for many years thereafter. Died in Roxbury September 7, 1842, and is buried in the Cemetery there.

EBENEZER PERRY.

First Town Clerk of Wilton, N. H. Removed from there to Packersfield prior to 1777, and settled in south part near Aaron Beal.

Ensign in Captain Timothy Clements Company of Colonel David Gilman's Regiment employed in the defense of Piscataqa Harbor in 1776.

Later in same year, Second Lieutenant in Captain Timothy Clements Company of Colonel Peirce Long's Regiment in Continental service at New Castle.

First Lieutenant in Captain William Walker's Company of 42 men raised out of the Fifth Regiment of Militia in the State of New Hampshire by order of Major General Folsom, December 7th, 1776, to reinforce the Continental Army at New York until the first day of March, 1777.

First Lieutenant in Captain John Mellin's Company that marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga on the alarm in June and July, 1777. Service from June 28 to July 11. Ticonderoga was evacuated July 6th.

Among other Packersfield men in this company were Sergeant James Bancroft, Corporal John Farwell and Privates Thomas K. Breed, Joseph Stanhope, Benjamin Nurse and Seth Cobb.

First Lieutenant in Captain Salmon Stone's Company of Colonel Moses Nicholas Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, from July 18, 1777.

Killed at the Battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

Among other Packersfield men in this company were Corporal Noah Day and Privates John Stroud, Joseph Mason, John French, Richard Farwell, Absalom Farwell, Thomas K. Breed, and David Averill.

March 3, 1777, Lieutenant Perry's eldest son, Ichabod, a lad aged 15, had enlisted from Packersfield in the Continental Army "for the war." (See Ichabod Perry.)

According to General Griffin, that same summer his six younger children, viz., Hannah, John W., Jacob, Jonathan, Dorcas and Ebenezer, died of dysentery, and his house was burned, leaving his wife Dorcas alone and destitute.

ICHABOD PERRY.

Son of Lieutenant Ebenezer Perry, who was killed at Bennington. Born in Wilton, N. H., September 20, 1761.

In 1776, or early in 1777, removed to Packersfield with his father's family. There, on March 3, 1777, at the age of 15, enlisted in the Continental Army "for the war." Served in Captain Isaac Frye's Company of Colonel Alexander Scammel's Third Regiment, New Hampshire Continental line. Probably at Saratoga, Valley Forge, and Monmouth, and in Sullivan Expedition.

In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 16, page 752, is the following:

"Return of Packersfield Quota of Men in Continental Army:

Bunker Clark, Ichabod Perry } Engaged During the war. Now in the field.

Samuel Adams, Joseph Winch, John Newman } Engaged in the Army for three years and marcht.

Packersfield, June 4, 1781.

WILLIAM BARKER, SAMUEL GRIFFIN, CONSIDER OSYER } Selectmen."

It will be noted that this was four years after his enlistment.

Wilton put in a claim that Perry should count in its quota, probably on the ground of his birth in Wilton, and the shortness of his residence in Packersfield before his enlistment. In like manner New Ipswich claimed Bunker Clark. The State Committee of Safety finally allowed Wilton's claim.

See Ebenezer Perry and General Griffin's story as to the misfortunes of the Perry family in 1777.

GIDEON PHILLIPS.

Born November 7, 1763. Brother of James and Richard.

October 12, 1779, enlisted in Captain John Carpenter's Company of Guards. Stationed at Springfield, Mass. Discharged January 12, 1780.

July 5, 1780, enlisted from Rutland, Mass., in Captain Pray's Company, Colonel Shepherd's Regiment, Mass. Continental Line. "Age 18 years; stature 5 ft. 4 in.; complexion dark." Attached to General Poor's Brigade in General LaFayette's Division. Went first to West Point. Then marched into New Jersey. Was at Morristown and Trenton, but most of the time on the march. Returned to West Point and was discharged there December 6, 1780.

On his way home after this discharge, at Barre, Mass., re-enlisted in the Continental service for three years. Joined the army at Newburg, N. Y. At first in Capt. Joshua Benton's Company. Afterwards in Captain Pray's Company, and several others.

Was most of the time at West Point, or in the neighborhood of New York City, or in New Jersey. Discharged in March, 1783.

Came to Packersfield probably about 1792, and finally settled on what was subsequently known as the "Bridge" place, near the middle of Roxbury. Died in Roxbury June 10, 1840.

JAMES PHILLIPS.

Brother of Gideon and Richard. An early settler of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) coming from Rutland, Mass., prior to 1773. Located on what was afterwards known as the "Bridge" place at Roxbury Center. In 1774 had seven acres cleared and one more acre cut over, and a "Pole" house erected.

Almost certainly one of the twenty-seven men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched on the Lexington Alarm, in April, 1775.

May 8, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Levi Spaulding's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. Fought at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775 (See Samuel Griffin). Received 12 shillings for property lost in the engagement. See N. H. State Papers, Vol. 7, page 591. Gilmore's "N. H. men at Bunker Hill," page 64.

Signer of the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

Member of Captain Joseph Parker's Company raised out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that joined the Northern Army at Ticonderoga; mustered and paid July 18, 1776. Corporal John Morse, Allen Breed, Samuel Griffin, William Priest, and Henry Bemis were in the same Company.

See anecdotes of Phillips by General Griffin.

RICHARD PHILLIPS.

Born in Smithfield, R. I., September 4, 1754. Brother of James and Gideon.

His pension declaration verified August 9, 1832, shows the following, viz:

At the outbreak of the war was a resident of Hubbardston, Mass. In the spring of 1776, enlisted from there in a company commanded by Lieut. Marine (illegible) and took part in the Siege of Boston. When the American Army took possession of Dorchester Heights in March, 1776 (See Samuel Felt), his company was one of those that marched in the night time and was the second to reach the top. He was there when the British evacuated the city, and was dismissed there at the expiration of his term of service.

In June, 1776, volunteered from Hubbardston for six months' service in Captain Flint's Company. Marched to New Haven, Conn., and there took ship for New York and joined the army under General Washington. The British were then on Long Island. After the battle of Long Island retreated northward as far as White Plains and from there to Phillips Manor, where was discharged at the expiration of service.

In the summer of 1777 volunteered from Smithfield, R. I., in Captain Samuel Day's Company for the Rhode Island campaign, and was discharged at Tiverton after a month's service.

In December, 1777, volunteered from Smithfield as a Marine aboard the Privateer *Providence* under Captain Abraham Whipple. They sailed supposedly for Boston, but instead of that went to France with despatches. Was at Nantes and Brest. Returned first to Portsmouth, N. H., and from there went to Boston, where he was discharged the last of November, 1778. In the course of the cruise they took a number of prizes, but he never received his share of the prize money.

The *Providence* was the most successful of all the ships of its class and became famous in song and story. The following are three of the numerous stanzas of a chantey, called "The Yankee Privateer," which, quite likely, Phillips used to sing—

"Come listen and I'll tell you
How first I went to sea,
To fight against the British
And earn our Liberty.
We shipped with Cap'n Whipple,
Who never knew a fear,
The Captain of the *Providence,*
The Yankee Privateer.

Chorus

We sailed and we sailed,
And we made good cheer.
There were many pretty men
On the Yankee Privateer.

* * * * *

For ten nights we followed
And ere the moon rose,
Each night a prize we'd taken
Beneath the Lion's nose.

When the British looked to see
Why their ships should disappear.
They found they had in convoy
A Yankee Privateer.

Chorus

But we sailed and sailed,
And made good cheer.
Not a coward was aboard
Of the Yankee Privateer.

* * * * *

Then we each manned a ship,
And our sails we unfurled.
And we bore the Stars and Stripes
O'er the oceans of the world.
From the proud flag of Britain
We swept the seas clear.
And we earned our Independence
On the Yankee Privateer.

Chorus

Now landsmen and sailors,
One more cheer!
Here is three times three
For the Yankee Privateer."

From Smithfield moved to Rutland, Mass., and from there to Packersfield about 1780, where he located in the Roxbury District. Died in Dublin, N. H., November 18, 1834.

In his pension application he was vouched for by Gideon Newcomb of Roxbury, and John Snow of Dublin.

NEHEMIAH PIERCE.

Born in 1755. In April, 1775, enlisted from Hollis, N. H., for eight months in Captain Reuben's Dow's Company of Colonel William Prescott's Regiment. "Age 20, height 5 feet 9 inches, complexion light." At Bunker Hill, June 17, where six members of his company were killed and six others wounded. (See Samuel Griffin.) The State of New Hampshire subsequently paid him for "1 knapsack, 1 hat and 1 tumpline" lost in the engagement. (A "tumpline" was a strap placed across the forehead to assist a man in carrying a pack on his back.) In his company 25 lost their knapsacks, and 23 their tumplines.

Probably other service.

Lived in Packersfield for a brief period, beginning about 1780. Subsequently in Hancock about 1787 and later in Hollis.

WILLIAM PRIEST.

Believed to be the William Priest who enlisted from Temple, N. H., and, according to his pension declaration verified August 21, 1832, corroborated by the New Hampshire Rolls, served the following enlistments.

1. In June, 1776, enlisted in Captain Towne's Company of Colonel Wyman's Regiment for five months. Marched to Ticonderoga. Stationed at Mount Independence. There when Arnold's fleet was destroyed in Lake

Champlain. (See Thomas Baker.) Discharged in November, 1776. In the same company were Corporal John Morse, Corporal Allen Breed, Jonathan Blodgett and Samuel Griffin.

2. In June, 1777, enlisted in Captain Gershom Drury's Company, which marched from Temple under the command of Lieut. Col. Thomas Heald to reinforce the Northern Continental Army, when Burgoyne was advancing on Ticonderoga. Marched to (illegible), Vt., and was "there turned back as was supposed by a Tory who said the troops were not wanted. Returned to Temple,—immediately started again and got as far as Rutland, Vt., and then learned that Ticonderoga had been given up. Was out on this alarm about three weeks."

3. Priest goes on to say—"that in 1778 or 1779, in the spring or beginning of summer, a man came through Temple, N. H., and wanted men to go to West Point to fill up the Continental ranks; that he enlisted for nine months; that as soon as he arrived there he was put into the service of a French Engineer and worked on a fort; men were called for to go to Kings Ferry to prevent the enemy from landing from a vessel and driving away cattle; that he volunteered, and with a party of 30 or 40 men went to the Ferry and was stationed there several months; then joined the main force at White Plains. Application was made by the sutlers to Col. Tupper, I think it was, for me to assist them, and I served with them until the army went into winter quarters. I then went to West Point and was discharged there. I did not do any regular company duty. The Commissary's name was Ballard. He was arraigned and tried by a court martial at New Windsor. I was one of the boatmen to carry him up. General Arnold commanded at West Point. I was discharged the latter part of the winter. I recollect, in the fall helping take up a large chain which was stretched across the river."

Living in Packersfield as early as 1785. At the time of his pension application living in Walpole, N. H.

ISAAC PROCTOR.

Member of Captain Joseph Parker's Company raised out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment that joined the Northern Army at Ticonderoga. Mustered and paid July 18, 1776.

In Captain Francis Towne's Company of Colonel David Edmons' Regiment raised by the State of New Hampshire in December, 1776 to reinforce the Continental Army in the State of New York. Service from December 5, 1776, to March 12, 1777.

In Captain Salmon Stone's Company of Colonel Nichol's Regiment, General Stark's Brigade raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment, of New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale Colonel, which company marched from Rindge in said State and joined the Northern Continental Army at Bennington and Stillwater, July 21-September 25, 1777. In battle of Bennington August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

In Captain Samuel Twitchell's Company of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Volunteers, which marched from New Hampshire and joined the Continental Army in Rhode Island in August, 1778.

Proctor probably came to Packersfield from Jaffrey, N. H. General Griffin says he lived for a time in the north part near the John Buxton place. Quite likely he was the Isaac Proctor, who, at the time of the consus of 1790, was living in "Campbell's Gore" between Stoddard and Antrim.

JOHN PROUTEE.

A settler of Monadnock No. 6, as early as 1769. In 1773 had 16 acres "improving." There was also a Johnson Proutee at the same time. John is said to have located on the place now owned by Rev. E. W. Phillips. Removed to Charlestown, N. H.

Of Captain Abel Walker's Company of Col. Benjamin Bellow's Regiment of Militia in the State of New Hampshire, that went and reinforced the garrison at Ticonderoga when beseiged by the enemy. Marched June 28, 1777. Service twelve days.

As apparently he left town just before the war began, his name has not been placed on the Memorial Tablet.

BENJAMIN RICE.

Born in Rutland, Mass., October 27, 1764. Living there at time of the war.

August 9, 1781, enlisted from Rutland in Captain Jonathan Sibley's Company of Colonel Luke Drury's Regiment. Discharged November 21, 1781. Travelled home 200 miles. Place of service not mentioned in roll.

Came to Nelson, about 1813.

Lived on place now owned by Prof. Rolfe. Died in Roxbury, June 21, 1834.

CHARLES RICE.

Born in Sudbury, Mass., January 26, 1749.

Probably the Charles Rice of Sudbury who marched on the Alarm of April 19, 1775, in Captain John Nixon's Company of Minute Men in Colonel Abijah Pierce's Regiment, and April 24, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain David Moor's Company of Colonel John Nixon's Regiment.

Came to Packersfield about 1784 and settled on the "Newcomb" place in Roxbury.

AMOS RICHARDSON.

Born in Attleboro, Mass., in 1755. Son of Thomas Richardson.

General Griffin, in his reminiscences of Nelson Revolutionary soldiers, says of him:—

"Amos Richardson was with Washington when he crossed the Delaware in the night, with his army, in boats. They left one hundred men to keep up the fires and deceive the British, and Richardson was one of the hundred. Early in the morning the British discovered what had happened, and came down upon them, but 'Old Put' (General Israel Putnam) had declared he would save those men, and had returned for them himself. As they escaped to the boats the British brought their cannon to bear, cutting down branches of trees over their heads, but not a man was hurt."

It has not been found possible to identify his organization.

The only crossing of the Delaware by Washington that the story fits was that of December 8, 1776. (See Samuel Felt.)

He came to Packersfield in 1785, and settled on what is now known as the Cabot place. Died in Nelson, November 30, 1815, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOHN RICHARDSON.

Born August 14, 1750. Son of Thomas.

During the war a resident of Attleboro, Mass.

In Captain Stephen Richardson's Company of Colonel John Daggett's Regiment before Boston for eight months in 1775.

Re-enlisted for six weeks as Corporal in said company in December, 1775.

Corporal in same company and regiment in "Five months' campaign at York" in 1776.

Probably much more service. Removed from Attleboro to Sharon and from there to Packersfield about 1784. Lived on the Charles Scripture place, now occupied by Mr. Peter Keough.

Died in Nelson August 14, 1814, and buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

THOMAS RICHARDSON.

Born in 1724. Father of John and Amos Richardson.

At the outbreak of the war living in Attleboro, Mass. Though over fifty years of age he probably performed the following service, viz:

Member of Captain Stephen Richardson's (Attleboro) company of Minute Men that marched on the Alarm of April 19, 1775. Service 9 days.

Member of Captain Stephen Richardson's Company of Colonel John Daggett's Regiment that marched on the Bunker Hill alarm. Service at Roxbury six weeks.

Member of Captain Stephen Richardson's Company of Colonel George Williams' Regiment that marched from Attleboro September 25, 1777, "on a secret expedition". Service one month and six days.

Member of Captain Alexander Foster's Company of Colonel John Daggett's regiment that marched on Rhode Island Alarm December 8, 1777.

Came to Packersfield about the close of the war and settled on the Cabot place.

Died in Packersfield May 5, 1806, and buried in the Cemetery on the Town Common.

SAMUEL RIXFORD.

Born in Grafton, Mass., January 21, 1765.

Enlisted from Grafton, Mass., January 14, 1781, to serve three years in the Continental Army. In Capt. Warren's Company of Colonel Cashing's Regiment, age 16; stature 4 feet 11 inches; complexion light; occupation farmer.

Immediately after his discharge came to Packersfield, where he lived until about 1789, when he moved to Rockingham, Vermont.

JOSIAH ROBBINS.

Born in Townsend, Mass., October, 1761. During the war a resident of Pepperill, Mass.

August 16, 1832, made a pension declaration in which he stated his various enlistments as follows:

"1st. In 1777 about the last of April or 1st of May, enlisted as a private for two months. Capt. John Minot's Company, Col. Whitney's Regiment, Mass. troops. Marched with said company to Providence, R. I. From there to East Greenwich, then to Warrick Neck. Remained there and was dismissed there. At the expiration of my term I returned home.

2nd. About the last of June or 1st of July the same year, enlisted again in Capt. N. Lakin's Co. Col. Robertson's Regiment, Mass. troops, and marched back to Rhode Island. Stationed at North Kingston. Stayed there till Gen. Spencer attempted to take the British troops in the island by surprise. Marched around the East end of the Island. Stayed there a few days but the enterprise failing, returned back to N. Kingston. Remained there till our term of six months expired, on the 1st of January, 1778, and was dismissed and returned home.

3rd. In 1778, about the first of March, enlisted again for ten months, Capt. Joseph Boynton's Co., Col. Wade's Regiment, and again marched to Providence. Was stationed there until Gen. Sullivan's engagement with the enemy. Was in sight, but was not in the battle. I was sick and retreated off before Sullivan retreated. Think there were eleven regiments of Continental troops there. Col. Wade's Regiment generally went to East Greenwich. Capt Boynton's Co. went to North Kingston. Remained there till my term of service expired, which was about the first of January, 1779.

4th. In 1779, enlisted again for two months in Capt. Latimer's (?) Co. of Col. John Jacob's Regiment. Marched to Newport, R. I. Was there when the British evacuated the Island. Stayed there till my term of enlistment expired and was dismissed. Don't remember the day, but remember the snow was six or eight inches deep. Think it must have been in December.

Was born in Townsend, Mass., in October, 1761. Have a record of my age in my father's bible now in my possession. Was living at Pepperill, Mass., when went into the service.

Have lived in Nelson since the war, and now reside there."

He lived on what is now called the Dr. Egbert place, and was a highly respected citizen, very active in public affairs. For many years he was Town Clerk, and also held other town offices, for example, Selectman, 1802, 1806, 1807-1817, and Representative to General Court 1807-1808.

The following samples of entries in the records of the Selectmen indicate that the duties and habits of town officers in his day were somewhat different from those at present:

> "February ye 28, 1799. Paid Josiah Melvin two dollars and sixty-one cents for two quarts and half pint of Rum for the Pound and for articles for the widow White."
>
> "February ye 3d 1800. Paid Josiah Melvin one Dollar and sixty-six cents for Rum expended in taking care of Silas Shattuck and one Dollar and forty-six cents for Rum expended about the Pound and for Wine for the widow White."

* Originally settled on what is now called the Robbins pasture near Mr Stoddard's.

"February ye 20th 1800. Reed of the Selectmen one Dollar and thirty-four cents it being for one Quart of Wine for Widow White and services providing for the Singing School.

(Signed) JOSIAH ROBBINS."

"Jany. ye 22d 1801, paid Josiah Melvin two dollars and forty-nine cents for two quarts of Rum and one pint of Molases for Repairing the Bridge by Henry Wheeler's and for Brandy Delivered to the Select men Perambulating the Town Line four Days."

"Feb. 8, 1803. Reecived of Selectmen three dollars and twelve cents for Rum and other Utensils used on the road south of Gad Newell's house.

(Signed) JOSIAH MELVIN."

In 1815 Robbins was chosen deacon of the church.

Died in Nelson, February 22, 1850, at the age of 88, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

BENJAMIN SAWYER.

Born in Amherst, N. H., June, 1758, and living there at the outbreak of the war.

From his pension declaration, verified August 9, 1832, confirmed and supplemented by the N. H. Rolls, it appears that his services were as follows:

1: December 27, 1775, enlisted from Amherst for one year from January 1, 1776, in the company commanded by Lieuts. Grosvenor and Maxwell, of Colonel James Reed's Regiment of the New Hampshire line stationed at Winter Hill near Boston; remained there until the British evacuated Boston, March 17, 1776; then marched to Providence and from there to New York. Next marched to Canada and occupied Montreal; then returned to Mount Independence opposite Ticonderoga, where remained three or four months; about the first of December marched south as far as Stillwater; there taken sick and left behind when the regiment went on; was discharged at Stillwater and took 14 days getting home. He does not mention the name of his captain saying he "went with Arnold" and was not in command. General Sullivan was Brigade Commander.

2. A member of Captain Nathan Bullard's Company of Colonel Moses Nichols Regiment that marched from Amherst and Wilton for Ticonderoga on the Alarm, June 29, 1777. Marched first to No. 4 (Charleston) where they were ordered home, and proceeded as far as Dublin, where they were ordered by express to turn and march again with all speed for Ticonderoga. Went as far as Otter Creek, where they received news of the evacuation of the fort.

3. Then on July 19, 1777, joined Captain John Bradford's Company of Colonel Moses Nichols Regiment, Stark's Brigade, raised to reinforce the Northern Army. Went to Bennington and took part in the battle. (See Richard Farwell.) Discharged September 18, 1777.

Came to Packersfield in 1779, and lived there the rest of his life, in the northeast quarter beyond the Kenniston place, on the hill; at the place afterwards owned by his son Joel Sawyer, a part of which is still called the Joel Sawyer meadow.

Died in Nelson, March 18, 1846, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

It is said that he and his wife Tabitha (Kittredge) lived together sixty-seven years, and when they died, eight of their fourteen children were living; also seventy-seven grandchildren, one hundred and sixteen great grandchildren, and one of the fifth generation, making in all two hundred and two.

SAMUEL SCRIPTURE, SR.

Born, as is supposed, in Groton, Mass., April 27, 1727. At the outbreak of the war, living in Mason, N. H.

April 23, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Benjamin Mann's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. In the same company was his son, Samuel, Jr. Both were at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Also in company of Volunteers commanded by Capt. Benjamin Mann of Colonel Nichols' Regiment, in the expedition to Rhode Island in August, 1777. Samuel, Jr., was also in the same company again.

The "Alarm" was an urgent one, so Captain Mann's Company took with them 48 horses. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

Came to Packersfield with his son about 1786.

Some have suggested that the elder Scripture enlisted in order to look after his son, who in years, was but a mere boy. Others think Samuel, Jr., went along to take care of the "old man." As a matter of fact, probably each was a hardheaded individual abundantly able to manage himself.

In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 7 beginning at page 586 is a record of disbursements by the State to those who lost personal property in the battle of Bunker Hill.

Samuel Scripture received for a gun, one pound ten shilling, and for a "snapsack" and two shirts, eleven shillings and two pence. Nathaniel Barrett was paid for a "gnapsack" a pair of shoes and buckles, and a handkerchief. Isaac Stanhope for a blanket, and Corporal John Buxton for a gun.

How they lost their packs and clothes is explained under Samuel Griffin. Evidently the loss of guns was not regarded as reprehensible. Probably quite the contrary. It is to be noted that Captain Mann of Scripture's company and Captain Crosby of Barrett's Company both lost their own guns. Just at the end, after the ammunition gave out, there was hand to hand fighting. They may have been broken over the heads of the enemy.

SAMUEL SCRIPTURE, JR.

Born in Mason, N. H., December 9th, 1760, the son of Samuel and Mary (Green) Scripture.

Aside from his many enlistments and length of service, his record is remarkable in three particulars, viz. (*a*) his age at the time he entered the service was less than fourteen years and five months; (*b*) he and his father enlisted in the same company and fought side by side; (*c*) he outlived all others connected with the war who ever were in Nelson, and reached a greater age than any of them, except, perhaps, Jacob Wheeler and William Follette.

Under date of September 5, 1832, he made a pension declaration in which he enumerates his enlistments as follows:

"1st. In the year 1775, soon after the Lexington Battle, I enlisted in Captain Benjamin Mann's Company in Col. Reed's New Hampshire Regiment,

and joined the company at Mystic about the first of May, and served in said company eight months. After the Bunker Hill Battle, was stationed at Winter Hill and was dismissed at Winter Hill the first of January.

2nd. In 1777 I went on an alarm in Capt. Blodgett's Company to join the Northern Army at Ticonderoga. Met the Army on retreat from Mount Independence, I think near Castleton, near a place called Picketford, was out about two months and dismissed near Castleton.

3rd. In 1777, in November, I enlisted again for 4 months in Captain Hunts Company. Don't recollect the Colonel's name. Was stationed at Cambridge and guarded the British prisoners, taken with Burgoyne, on Prospect Hill. Served my time out and was dismissed at Cambridge about the first of April.

4th. In 1778 I volunteered in August for 2 months to go to R. Island in Captain Mann's Company. Was there during a severe storm. Was there at the time of Gen. Sullivan's retreat. Was not in the battle but retreated off with the army and was stationed a short time at Howland's Ferry, and dismissed about the 15th of October.

5th. In the fall of 1779 I enlisted again for nine months to fill vacancy in the Continental Regiment in New York. Went to White Plains and Joined Capt. Holden's Company, Col. Nixon's Regiment, at Bedford, not far from White Plains. Was detached from Nixon's Regiment and put into Col. Vose's Regiment. Went with Col. Vose's Regiment down the river to North Castle. Was on the march a great part of the time. Was once attacked by a party of the enemy's light horse and cowboys, and had a warm skirmish. Went to White Plains and thence to the Highlands into Winter quarters. In the spring went under Colonel Nixon down the river and into New Jersey. Marched with 3 days' provision and was not relieved for twenty days. Returned to Peekskill and was dismissed at the expiration of my 9 months service. The 1st, 2nd and 4th services above were in the New Hampshire Militia. The 3rd service in Mass. Militia. The last was Continental service.

Was born in Mason, N. H., in 1760. Have a record of my age taken from the Town Book in Mason. Lived in said Mason when I went into all of said services, and moved from Mason to Nelson, where I now live. Was a volunteer in all services. I recollect Gen. Washington and Gen. Lee, in first service. In 4th knew Gen. Sullivan. In the last service Gen. Arnold and Gen. Nixon."

Those who vouched for Mr. Scripture were Rev. Laban Ainsworth of Jaffrey and Doctor Amos Twitchell of Keene.

An examination of the rolls in the respective offices of the Secretary of State of New Hampshire and Massachusetts confirm all of his statements and supply more particulars; viz:

(1). The date of his first enlistment was April 28, 1775. His father had enlisted April 23. We can well imagine the difficulty the fourteen year old lad had in getting in. As he says, the record of his birth, December 9, 1760, is in the "Town Book" in Mason. The Commander of his company, Captain Mann, also came from Mason.

It seems that the Colony of New Hampshire had promised the troops regimental coats, which evidently were not forthcoming, for in October

Scripture signed a receipt for four dollars in lieu thereof. In pictures, Revolutionary soldiers are shown wearing fine well-fitting uniforms of blue and buff. Such things had no existence except in the minds of the artists. It not only is possible, but probable, that in all his service Scripture wore no coat that did not come from the family flock of sheep, spun, dyed, woven, cut and sewed by his mother or sisters. (See Stephen Parker.) Washington said of his army in 1778—"A great many men entirely destitute of shirts and breeches, and I suppose not less than a fourth or fifth of the whole are without shoes." (See David Kimball.)

The first payroll was made up August 1st. It shows he had lost no time, so doubtless Scripture was in the battle of Bunker Hill on June 17th.

(2) The commander he speaks of as "Capt. Blodgett" was First Lieutenant Jacob Blodgett; Joseph Barret was Captain.

(4) The storm he mentions played a very important part in the Rhode Island campaign. (See Timothy Bancroft.)

(5) The date of his discharge from final service was June 8, 1780. He enlisted the previous September. The Regiment was the Sixth Massachusetts Line.

General Griffin says Scripture was at "Valley Forge." This is a mistake, but a very natural one. The Winter Quarters of the army were at Valley Forge during the Winter of 1777 and 1778. (See William Parker and Abijah Wetherbee.) Scripture was in Winter quarters at the Highlands in 1779-1780. (See David Kimball.) Conditions were but little, if any, better in the latter place. Charles Knowles Bolton, in his book "The Private Soldier under Washington" at page 84, has this statement,

"In the Winter of 1779 and 1780 the army was sometimes for five or six days without bread, often as long without meat, and once or twice two or three days without either." It may be added that they were without vegetables all the time and many were afflicted with scurvy in consequence.

General Griffin doubtless heard the particulars of the time they went twenty days on three days provision, and it is to be regretted that he did not record them.

Young Scripture came to Packersfield with his father about 1786, and purchased from Thomas Kidder what has since been known as the Captain Scripture place, or later as the Barry or Clymer place.

Was Commander of the Local Militia Company, and invariably referred to as "Captain" Scripture.

Died in Nelson and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common. His gravestone reads:

"Capt. Samuel Scripture
Died January 26, 1852.
AE 91.
A Soldier of the American Revolution."

AMOS SKINNER

Born in Norton, Mass., August 28, 1739.

One of the early settlers of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson). In town as early as 1773, settling near Tolman Pond, east of the "Poland Place", and very active in public matters. One of the Town

officers in 1774. (Brother of Dr. Samuel Skinner, who also came to town in 1778, and practiced medicine there for many years, residing on the Charles Flood place.)

At a town meeting held April 18, 1775, the day before Lexington, he was elected Moderator and also chairman of a "Committee of Safety" to put the resolutions of the American Congress in force. The other two members were Lieut. Abijah Brown and Dr. Nathaniel Breed.

Probably one of the 27 men who under Lieut. Abijah Brown marched from Packersfield to Cambridge, April 21, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm.

Elected member of the Committee of Inspection, September 25, 1775.

Signer of the "Association Test" April, 1776.

Lieutenant of Militia in 1776.

Probably the "Amos Skinner" in Capt. Abijah Smith's Company for New York, enlisted out of Col. Enoch Hale's Regiment of Militia, and mustered by him September 21, 1776. (See New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 14, page 420.)

April 4, 1777, when the town made its presentment against Major Breed Batchelder, it was "Voted that Lieut. Amos Skinner go with Capt. Eleazer Twitchell to carry the above petition."

Moderator of Town Meeting held May 29, 1777. Recorded as "Lieutenant Amos Skinner."

"Lieutenant Amos Skinner" was also elected Moderator and Selectman at Town Meeting held August 5, 1777.

Probably the "Amos Skinner" who in April, 1778, enlisted in Captain Charles Nelson's company in Col. Timothy Bedel's Regiment, for Continental Service, of one year. See New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 17, page 250.

ABIEL SMITH

Living in Raynham, Mass., at the time of the outbreak of the war.

In Captain Jonathan Shaw's Company of Colonel George Williams' (3d Bristol Co.) Regiment, which marched to Rhode Island December 8, 1776, on an "Alarm."

Also same company and regiment on a secret expedition in September, 1777.

Also in Captain Josiah Crocker's Company of Colonel Thomas Carpenter's Regiment on service in Rhode Island in July, 1778.

He came to Packersfield in 1779, and September 2, 1778, Polly, daughter of Abiel and Abigail Smith, was born in that town. Seven previous children were born in Raynham.

EZRA SMITH.

Born in Sudbury, Mass., January 13, 1755, or '54. Son of Henry and Lucrecia. A resident of Sudbury during the war.

In the spring of 1775 was a member of Captain John Nixon's Company of Colonel Abijah Smith's Regiment of Minute Men. The Company was organized in March. A roll is in existence showing that they drilled regularly. Smith was present at the drills of March 12, 20, 27, April 3, 10 and 17, 1775.

On April 19, 1775, the alarm reached Sudbury between three and four o'clock in the morning. (See William Barker.) Nixon's company started from the West Side Meeting House. As they approached Colonel Barrett's on their way to Concord, Stephen Barrett, son of the Colonel, met them and warned them of the presence of the British at his house, and they turned and marched through the fields and arrived at the North Bridge just as the firing began. (See William Barker.)

General Griffin, in his reminiscences of Revolutionary Soldiers, says: "Capt. Ezra Smith, who lived on the George Hardy place, was at the battle of Concord, and stood within a few feet of Capt. Davis when he fell."

April 24, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain David Moore's Company in Colonel John Nixon's Regiment. Was at the battle of Bunker Hill June 17, 1776. His company was just at the left of the redoubt, between it and the New Hampshire regiments. (See Uriah Wheeler and Samuel Griffin.)

Probably saw much more service, but identification in case of a person named Smith is a little difficult.

Was a Captain of the local Militia and lived in Nelson for many years on what was subsequently known as the George Hardy place, now owned by Mr. John Cowen. Members of his family are buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

In his old age he went away and is said to have died in Belleville, N. Y., February 27, 1834.

JACOB SMITH.

Under date of November 17, 1788, Shadrach Hill of Packersfield deeded to Jacob Smith of Southborough, Worcester County, Mass., land in the South East part of Packersfield.

Smith probably came to town soon after and remained the rest of his life. His stone in the cemetery on the old Common states that he died May 30, 1795, in his 75th year. This would indicate birth about 1720, and that he was about 55 at the outbreak of the war.

His grave has for many years been flagged as that of a Revolutionary soldier, but there is no definite tradition as to the nature of his service. Owing to his age, any extended enlistment would seem improbable.

The name Jacob Smith frequently appears on the Massachusetts rolls, but proof of identity is lacking.

Owing to the uncertainty it has not been placed on the memorial tablet.

JOHN SPINNEY.

One of the early settlers of Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson), coming as early as 1773, and settling on what was afterwards known as the John Yeardley place. In 1774 had two acres cleared.

Elected Selectman April 18, 1775.

Signer of the Association Test in 1776, and member of the Board of Selectmen that made return of the same to the Committee of Safety of the Colony, the other members being Joseph Stanhope and Eleazer Twitchell.

DAVID SPOFFORD.

Baptized July 23, 1738. Married November 22, 1761, to Mrs. Elizabeth Griffin, widow, mother of Samuel Griffin, who resided with his stepfather in Temple, N. H.

As a "Minute Man", marched from Temple with Seth Cobb, Stephen Cobb, Samuel Griffin and Archelus Wilson on the "Lexington Alarm", April 19, 1775.

As one of the Selectmen of Temple, corresponded with the New Hampshire Committee of Safety as to military matters in 1777. See N. H. State Papers, Vol. 17, page 134.

Was also in same year Chairman of a "Committee of Inspection, Correspondence and Safety" and otherwise very active in the town's affairs.

General Griffin says he removed to Packersfield and settled south of Tolman pond. His daughter Elizabeth married Joseph Felt and his daughter Sarah married Noah Hardy.

It is not known just how long he was in town.

JOHN SPRAGUE.

Born in Attleboro, Mass., December 10, 1761. Son of Deacon John and Mary.

Enlisted from Attleboro, July 27, 1778, in Capt. Alex Foster's Company in Colonel Thomas Carpenter's Regiment for campaign in Rhode Island. Service 17 days.

Probably other service. Removed to Templeton and thence to Packersfield in 1784.

October 25, 1784, Uriah Wheeler deeded to John Sprague land bounded by land of John French, John White, Ezra Smith and Elijah Stocker.

Was a blacksmith and is said to have lived on the Sewell Day place.

JOSEPH STANFORD.

One of the early settlers, coming before the war and settling near the Chauncey Barker place in Harrisville.

Probably one of the 27 men who, under Lieutenant Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield on the "Lexington Alarm."

Enlisted in April, 1775, for eight months in Captain William Scott's Company of Colonel Paul Dudley Sargent's Regiment. Sargent was of Amherst, N. H., and Scott of Peterboro, N. H., and most of their men were from nearby towns.

Was in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

In a Muster Roll of the Company dated October 6, 1775, "Joseph Stanford, Packersfield" is reported "sick."

ISAAC STANHOPE.

Supposed to have been a son of Joseph Stanhope and one of the earliest settlers.

Probably one of the twenty-seven men that marched from Packersfield, April 21, 1775, under Lieut. Abijah Brown in response to the Lexington Alarm.

May 13, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Ezra Towne's Company of Col. James Reed's Regiment. His description was "Born Sudbury, age 19; place of abode, Packersfield; occupation, farmer; height, 5 ft. 5 in.; complexion, brown; color of eyes, light."

Was in the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775, for description of which see Samuel Griffin, who was in the same company, as was also John Breed. Was paid for a blanket lost during the engagement.

JOSEPH STANHOPE.

Said to have been a half-breed Indian and one of the earliest settlers of the town, coming in 1767, and settling on the place now owned by Marcus M. Bailey. In 1774 had 18 acres cleared, 15 more cut over, a "Pole" house and a family. Was active in all public matters, being elected First Selectman, Assessor, Highway Surveyor and Constable, when the Town was incorporated in 1774, and on April 18, 1775, with Dr. Nathaniel Breed and Eleazer Twitchell, a member of the Committee on Correspondence, and Moderator of a town meeting on May 6, 1775.

Stanhope signed the "Association Test" in April, 1776, and was chairman of the Board of Selectmen (the others being John Spinney and Eleazer Twitchell) that made return of the same to the Committee of Safety.

July 3, 1777, enlisted in a company commanded by Captain John Mellin, which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga. In the same company were John Farwell, James Bancroft, Thomas K. Breed, Seth Cobb and other Packersfield men.

JOSEPH STILES.

Born in Middleton, Mass., July 15, 1737. Son of Ebenezer and Sarah.

At the breaking out of the war living in Wilton, N. H. Enlisted August 1, 1775, in Capt. John Wood's Company of Colonel Paul Dudley Sargent's Regiment before Boston. Appointed Corporal.

In the diary of Lieutenant Jonathan Burton, while in Captain William Barrow's Company, in the Canada Expedition, August 1 to November 29, 1776, are these items, apparently written at Crown Point:

> "Tuesday, Sept. 10th. This day Mr. Joseph Stiles came in here. By him I reed a letter. Dated ye 3d of Sept.
>
> "Sunday, Sept. 15th, Mr. Joseph Stiles went from this place on his return to Wilton."

Stiles was also a Sergeant in Captain John Goss' Company of Militia in Nichol's Regiment, and Stark's Brigade, raised and marched to reinforce the Northern Army in July, 1777. Service two months and nine days. Discharged September 28, 1777. At battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.)

In "The Stiles Family in America," by Mrs. Mary Stiles Gould, it is stated that, soon after 1776, he "removed to Nelson, N. H." The date was probably several years later, and there are indications that he was afterwards in Wilton again for a short period. This may have been due to the fact that his son Ebenezer lived in Wilton till about 1799, while his son Andrew, who married Dorcas Beard, lived many years and probably died in Packers-

field. His son Abram, who married Hannah Stoddard, and daughter Eunice, who married David White, also lived in the latter place.

Joseph deeded to both Andrew and Abram land in the North West Quarter.

In the Nelson town books is recorded the death in Nelson, March 18, 1820, of "Joseph Stiles, Aged 72." This is probably correct as to date, but wrong as to age, which was 82.

ELIJAH STOCKER.

In Captain Benjamin Spaulding's Company in Colonel Moses Nichol's Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire, and joined the Continental Army at West Point from July 7th to October 21st, 1780. Among other Packersfield men in this company were Noah Hardy, John Breed, Robert Usher and Thomas K. Breed. They all enlisted the same day.

October 28, 1783, Elijah Stocker of Packersfield and Lois Scollay of Harvard, Mass., were married in Packersfield by Rev. Jacob Foster. Lois was younger sister of Ann Scollay, who married Josiah Whitney.

Stocker located near John White.

RICHARD STODDARD.

Born in 1748. At the outbreak of the war living in Templeton, Mass., where in 1772 he had married Rachel Hill.

Responded to the Lexington Alarm from that town on April 19, 1775, as a member of Captain Joel Fletcher's Company of Colonel Ephraim Doolittle's Regiment and remained in the field 16 days.

A Richard Stoddard also performed other services, but as the residence is not given, the identity is uncertain. He came to Packersfield some time between April, 1776, and August, 1777, and settled on the farm now owned by his deseendant, Mr. Wellington Stoddard. At a town meeting held August 5, 1777, he was chosen "Pound Keeper" and afterwards was quite prominent in town affairs.

At a town meeting held December 8, 1777, a committee composed of James Bancroft, Joel Wright, Captain Eleazer Twitchell, John Adams and Richard Stoddard were appointed to arrange for the choice of a representative to the General Court at Exeter for the towns of Packersfield, Stoddard, Washington and Gilsum.

Soon after Stoddard was elected Town Constable. He served as Sexton and Tythingman for many years, and in 1786 was chairman of a committee in charge of the stone work in connection with the building of a "new" meeting house, his colleagues being Capt. Ezra Smith and "Esquire Griffin." Also in 1789 built a wall four and one-half feet high around the "Burying Yard" at "three shillings per rod," the equivalent of about fifty cents. The records of the Town Clerk also show that when Reverend Gad Newell first came to town he boarded at Mr. Stoddard's.

He died in Nelson May 9th, 1818, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOHN STROUD.

An early settler, living on "Prospect Hill" in 1771. His name appears in records of meetings of proprietors in 1773 and 1774.

Almost certainly one of the 27 men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield, April 21, 1775, in response to the Lexington Alarm.

April 23, 1775, enlisted for eight months in Captain Benjamin Mann's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment. At Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775.

Signer of the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

In Captain Salmon Stone's Company in Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment, General Stark's Brigade, raised out of the Fifteenth Regiment of New Hampshire Militia, Enoch Hale, Colonel, which company marched from Rindge, July 21, 1777, and joined the Northern Army at Bennington, and Stillwater. In Battle of Bennington, August 16, 1777. (See Richard Farwell.) Discharged September 26, 1777.

October 4, 1781, enlisted in the Continental Army. Credited to Peterboro.

EDMUND TAYLOR.

Probably one of the twenty-seven men who, under Lieut. Abijah Brown, marched from Packersfield for Cambridge, April 21, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm.

Enlisted May 10, 1775, in Captain Benjamin Mann's Company of Colonel James Reed's Regiment, for eight months. At Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Signer of the Association Test, April, 1776.

Probably did not remain long in town.

JOHN TAYLOR.

July 10, 1779, enlisted from Packersfield in Continental Army "for the war." See N. H. State Papers, vol. 15, pages 630, 646, and vol. 16, page 752.

Probably other service, but cannot certainly be identified, as there are several John Taylors on the Rolls.

EBENEZER TOLMAN.

Was the son of Henry Tolman of Attleboro, Mass., where he was born May 31st, 1748. His mother was Mary Slack. His father dying when he was eight years old, he resided with his grandfather Slack till he was fourteen, when he was apprenticed to a carpenter. When he was about twenty-one he went to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire.

In the office of the Secretary of State at Concord is a payroll of Captain Jonathan Whitcomb's Company in Colonel James Reed's Regiment, dated August, 1775, with this:

> "Ebenr Toleman; Private; time of entry April 23d; time of service, 3 mo. 6 days; gone to Canada."

In the same place is a roll signed by "Saml Ward, Jr., Capt.," who certifies that "the above is a true list of the men, their ages, places of abode, &c., in my company in the Detachment under Col. Benedict Arnold, who belonged in the New Hampshire forces." One man on the list is:—

> "Eben Toolman; age 27; place of abode, Fitzwilliam; occupation, carpenter; late of Regiment Reed's; Company, Whitcomb's."

August 16th, 1832, Tolman made a pension declaration as follows:

"1st. In 1775 enlisted at Mystic, near Boston, in Captain Jonathan Whitcomb's Company in Colonel James Reed's Regiment of New Hampshire Troops, for eight months. Stationed in Mystic and Charlestown until Bunker Hill Battle. Was in the Battle. (See Samuel Griffin.) Was afterward stationed on Winter Hill. In September volunteered and detached to go with Colonel Arnold in the expedition to Canada by the way of the Kennebec River. Marched through the woods to Quebec. Remained there until General Montgomery joined us with his force. Was in the attack upon Quebec and taken prisoner in the city. Was detained a prisoner until August, 1776. Then sent round by ship to New York and from there landed at Elizabethtown in New Jersey, and released on parole, making nine months, or a little over, detention after eight months' term of enlistment had expired. Was afterwards exchanged.

2nd. In 1777 enlisted for three years in Captain Elijah Clayes, or Cloyes, Company in Colonel Nathan Hale's New Hampshire Regiment. Joined the army at Ticonderoga in May. Was appointed Orderly Sergeant. Remained until General St. Clair abandoned the place. Retreated to Saratoga; then marched to Fort Miller; then back to Stillwater. Was there taken sick in August and hired a man by the name of Amos Boynton to take my place and serve out my term, who was accepted by the Captain. Was in this service as Orderly Sergeant about three months. Was in the Hubbardton battle. Went from Fitzwilliam, County of Cheshire, State of New Hampshire, into both services, at which place I then lived."

This modest narrative discloses participation in the greatest adventure of the whole Revolutionary War, and, fortunately, we know considerable about it. Some one has said that it was "productive of nothing but disaster and interesting journals". Tolman himself wrote one of the best of them, which is printed in full, beginning at page 161. Other good ones were (*a*) that of Private John Joseph Henry, then a lad of sixteen, who expanded and published it later when Presiding Judge in the Second Judicial District of Pennsylvania; (*b*) that of Private George Morrison, who was a Pennsylvania rifleman, and wrote contemporaneously; (*c*) that of Captain George Dearborn, who not only was a leader in the expedition, but later Secretary of War, Major-General, Collector of Customs at Boston and Minister to Portugal, and (*d*) that of Private Caleb Haskell, of Newburyport, who was in the same company as Tolman.

Aside from extended accounts in general histories, there have been no less than three elaborate special books written on the subject, viz: "Arnold's Expedition to Quebec," 340 pages, by John Codman; "Arnold's March from Cambridge to Quebec," 498 pages, by Prof. Justin H. Smith, and "Our Struggle for the Fourteenth Colony," two volumes, each of over 600 pages, also by Prof. Smith.

Only a bare outline of the story can be given here.

Thirteen of England's American Colonies were in revolt. The only remaining one was Canada, which still hesitated. It was believed that a bold military stroke would turn the scale, and it was determined to capture Quebec by a combination of two expeditions; a small one from New York up the

usual route by the Hudson River and Lake Champlain, and a larger one up the Kennebec River, through the wilderness of Maine, over the height of land and down the Chaudiere.

It was fully realized that the latter was a dangerous, a *desperate* enterprise; still, even in the light of subsequent events, it was not an insane one. The difficulties were underestimated. The route was longer and harder than was supposed, and the forces of nature more formidable. Yet, had they been able to push through only ten days sooner, before Quebec was reinforced, the attempt might have succeeded.

Benedict Arnold, of Connecticut, who already had an extraordinary reputation for hardihood and courage, was selected by Washington himself as leader and given a force of eleven hundred men carefully picked out of the multitude of volunteers from the patriot army before Boston.

Henry thus describes Arnold: "Our commander, Arnold, was of a remarkable character. He was brave, even to temerity; was beloved by the soldiery perhaps for that quality only; he possessed great powers of persuasion, was compaisant, but withal, sordidly avaricious. Arnold was a short, handsome man of a florid complexion, stoutly made."

Mr. Codman well states that "the detachment, as a whole, was of the very flower of the Colonial youth." Though physical qualities were specially regarded, there were, in the ranks as well as among the officers, scores of the brightest minds in the country, who subsequently revealed their qualities, in the war and in public life. Henry and Dearborn, just mentioned, were examples. Others were Captain Daniel Morgan, hero of the battle of Cowpens, and Private Aaron Burr, who became Vice-President of the United States.

Young Samuel Ward, Tolman's Captain, was the son of the Governor of Rhode Island.

About two hundred and fifty came from Rhode Island, one hundred from Connecticut, four hundred from Massachusetts, including the District of Maine, one hundred from New Hampshire, two hundred from Pennsylvania, one hundred from Virginia, and there were about fifty more from other quarters. About nine hundred out of eleven hundred were American born. The other two hundred, whom Tolman refers to as "old countrymen," were recent immigrants, mostly young Irishmen.

Tolman's battalion marched from Cambridge on the evening of September 13th, as far as Malden that night. The next day they marched twenty-five miles and reached Newburyport on the evening of the 15th.

On the 17th they had a grand review, and on the 19th embarked, closely packed, in eleven little vessels. Tolman says the troops numbered thirteen hundred, but all other authorities make it eleven hundred, as already stated.

In the early morning, when they weighed anchor, there was a "pleasant gale, our colors flying, drums and fifes a-playing, and the hills all around covered with pretty girls weeping for their departing swains," but that night a great storm arose. They were terribly seasick; all were called on deck, expecting every minute to be driven on the rocky shore; but finally they reached the mouth of the Kennebec, passed up, and on the 21st or 22nd landed at what was then known as "Gardinerston," out of which has come the present Gardiner.

Here awaited them the "bateaux" which were to be used on the expedition. The contractor had built two hundred of them in about two weeks, not having received the order until September 3rd. Perhaps he had done the best he could, but the job was a bad one, as Arnold at once realized. He, however, made the best of the situation and ordered twenty more to be done within seven days, while he waited for them.

The whole lot, made out of green lumber, were intolerably heavy, and so badly put together that they leaked from the start, and many of them broke up when put to the strain that soon followed.

Morrison, speaking of the time when they had been in use but four days, says: "Could we then have come within reach of the villains who constructed these crazy things, they would fully have experienced the effects of our vengeance. Avarice, or a desire to destroy us—perhaps both—must have been their motives—they could have had none else. Did they not know that their doings were crimes—that they were cheating their country and exposing its defenders to additional sufferings and to death?"

The feebleness of the bateaux was undoubtedly the main cause of the breakdown of the enterprise.

While waiting for the additional boats the troops marched up to Fort Western, now Augusta, the head of navigation. Just beyond were a half mile of rapids.

Here, after a few days' rest, they plunged into the wilderness and the terrible struggle began.

The wilderness—where for hundreds of thousands of years great trees had grown and fallen in vast net works and tangles, and the foot of man had never before trod.

There was one boat for each five men. Tolman indicates what it meant to operate them in the river. For example: "September 28. Pushed up eight miles, the water so bad that the bateaux men were obliged to drag the boats up over the shoals and in many places went up to their chins in water." "October 1. Pushed up over rocks and shoals, where we were many times over head in water, pulling the bateaux over."

On October 2nd he says: "This day carried over Norridgewalk Falls, one mile and a quarter, and then encamped very uncomfortably this night after carrying our boats over roots and rocks and mud."

In addition to the constant drenching, cold caused great suffering. Mr. Codman says that "on the night of September 30th it was so cold that the soaked uniforms could not be completely dried, and froze stiff even near the fires, the men being obliged to sleep with them in that condition."

In spite of all this they kept up their spirits. A writer* has thus described it: "They started up the stream, rowing and poling in four divisions, a considerable distance apart, with indefatigable Daniel Morgan and his Virginians at the lead. But soon they could neither pole nor row in the rocky stream. The men jumped overboard and dragged the boats, wading in the cold water all day, often sinking to their necks, or over their heads, in the deep pools, upsetting the leaky boats, losing provisions and often guns. They reached carrying places where they had to transport the heavy bateaux and cargoes round falls and rapids. The black soil was soaked with

* Sidney George Fisher, "The Struggle for American Independence," p. 401.

rain and they sank knee deep, stumbling over stones and roots and fallen logs. With the heavy bateaux grinding on their shoulders, or almost dragging their arms from their sockets as they carried it on hand spikes, a misstep of one man in the mud would bring the whole party, bateaux and all, to the ground. They would rise, covered with black mud, cursing and laughing, and laugh still louder to see the next boat crew in the same plight."

From day to day the laughter grew fainter. All of them could not stand sleeping in frozen clothes. Sickness began. Worse than that, while hardly started, the provisions began to run low. Great quantities of dry salt codfish had been piled on the boats at Fort Western. The dryness promptly disappeared, the saltiness followed, and then decay forced the throwing away of most of it. The wet flour soured. Even the pork had to be repacked.

The rain fell day after day in torrents till the whole country was a morass. Do the best they could, their progress was slow. Tolman says that in three days, October 5th, 6th and 7th, they they only went about twenty miles. Then it turned even colder than before. On the 25th it snowed all night. The river began to freeze and they had to break the ice with the butts of their guns.

Tolman's record for October 24th is particularly interesting, recording as it does a calamity that nearly finished them:

"October 24. Our provisions growing scanty, and some of our men being sick, held a council and agreed to send the sick back, and to send a Captain and fifty-men forward to the inhabitants as soon as possible, that they might send us more provisions. Accordingly, the sick were sent back and Captain Handchit with 50 men sent forward. Before this Col. Enos, with three captains and their companies, turned back and took with them large stores of provisions and ammunition, being discouraged (as we suppose) by difficulties they met with. This day got forward nine miles. The water very rapid and many of our boats were upset and much of our baggage lost and provisions and guns."

They came to the watershed between the head waters of the two rivers. It grew colder and colder. The provisions reached the vanishing point. What was left was equally divided and orders were passed along that each man must look out for himself. On the 27th they abandoned the bateaux, "being fatigued," says Tolman, "by carrying over such hills, rocks and swamps as were never passed by man before." Everything now was on their backs. Soon packs were discarded, axes dropped and they staggered on with little but their guns, and sometimes not even them.

Says Tolman: "Here we killed a dog and we made a very great feast."

Mr. Fisher alludes to this and goes into further details. "Some of them killed and ate a pet dog, flesh, skin and entrails, and then boiled the bones. They dug roots out of the half frozen mud with bleeding hands. They boiled and ate their extra moose skin moccasins. Some six hundred men strung out in a long line by the Chaudiere, a line that reeled, stumbled and fell and bent up and down over the high wooded hills. Were these the conquerors of Quebec?

Dazed, delirious, half-blinded by famine and exhaustion, they would look back as they ascended a hill to see others falling over one another and rolling

down the opposite slope. On the top of the hill they would halt as if calculating whether their strength would take them down; then they would start, falling over logs and stones, and sending their guns flying into the muddy snow. Then up the next slope they would wearily go, pulling themselves by any twig and bush that offered assistance."

Men were now dropping right and left. As their comrades passed them they would beg piteously not to be abandoned, but there was nothing else to do. About one hundred in a few days were left to the wolves.

Henry tells of two thoroughly respectable young women who had accompanied their husbands. They were stalwart and strong, undergoing all of the hardships of the men. One of them was a Mrs. Warner. When Warner was unable to go further she remained behind with him until he died, covered his body as best she could with dead wood and leaves, and then managed to overtake the column.

Bullet pouches were now eaten, then the moccasins from their feet. Finally leathern breeches were cut up. There was nothing else.

On October 31 Private Haskell, of Tolman's company, an unemotional matter-of-fact sort of a man, wrote: "There is scarcely any one who has more than one day's provisions, and that small, and a great number none at all. *Some have had none at all for two days.*"

On November 1 Tolman wrote that he had been "4 or 5 days without any provision." On November 2 he says "we staggered about like drunken men."

And then, just as the end of all things was at hand, a faint shout went up at the head of the column and through the woods they saw cattle and men leading horses with great sacks across their backs—it was the relief party come just in time. No wonder Tolman says "it was the joyfullest sight that ever I beheld and some could not refrain from crying for joy."

There reached Quebec just 510 men out of 1,100 that started—emaciated, almost naked, with hardly any ammunition, but in no way turned aside from their determination to take the city.

Montgomery with the "York" troops joined them, increasing their numbers by about 250, and they began their pitiful siege operations.

Meanwhile the garrison of Quebec had been reinforced by General Carleton to 1,800 men, lodged in the strongest place on the continent—well called the Gibraltar of America.

"Round Quebec's embattled walls
Moodily the patriots lay;
Dread disease within its thralls
Drew them closer day by day;
Till from suffering man to man
Mutinous a murmur ran.

Footsore, they had wandered far,
They had fasted, they had bled;
They had slept beneath the star
With no pillow for the head;
Was it but to freeze to stone
In this cruel icy zone?"*

On the night of December 30th, in the midst of a howling snowstorm, they prepared for an assault, and at 2 A. M. moved forward through the snow drifts, each with the flintlock of his gun under his coat.

*From "Montgomery at Quebec," by Clinton Scollard.

Montgomery was to attack on one side and Arnold on the other.

"'T was the death-tide of the year;
Night had passed its murky noon;
Through the bitter atmosphere
Pierced not ray of star nor moon;
But upon the bleak earth beat
Blinding arrows of the sleet.

While the trumpets of the storm
Pealed the bastioned heights around,
Did the dauntless heroes form,
Did the low, sharp order sound.
'Be the watchword *Liberty!*'
Cried the brave Montgomery."*

At almost the first fire Montgomery fell dead and his party turned back. In like manner Arnold was hit in the leg and carried to the rear, but his men pressed on. They carried the outer fortifications, capturing prisoners and guns and reached the lower town. Then they rushed through the narrow streets and planted their scaling ladders on the second barrier.

And here they fought for hours. As the enemy fell they possessed themselves of their superior weapons. Breaking open doors they fired from the windows of the houses. But soon the locks on their guns became so covered with ice that they would not prime and they could only use them as clubs. There was a time when they could have retired to safety, but few did so, and they now found themselves helpless to do anything and completely surrounded by over four times their number. Finally upwards of three hundred surrendered.

Tolman's narrative puts the number of killed and wounded at 82. The other authorities make it two to three times that. Tolman states the number of prisoners was 372, and gives their names. This is doubtless correct. He could count them, but could have no certain knowledge of other casualties. Henry is probably nearer right when he says that six officers were killed and five wounded, and of the men at least one hundred and fifty killed and fifty or sixty wounded.

Henry relates that the following day "many carioles passed our dwelling loaded with dead, whether of the assailants or of the garrison, to a place called the dead house. Here the bodies were heaped in a monstrous pile. The horror of the sight to us Southern men principally consisted in seeing our companions borne to interment, uncoffined, and in the very clothes they had worn in battle; their limbs distorted in various directions such as would ensue in the moment of death. Many of our friends and acquaintances were apparent. Poor Nelson lay on top of half a dozen other bodies, his arms extended beyond his head as if in the act of prayer, and one knee crooked and raised, seemingly when he last gasped the agonies of death * * *. A wound mortal or even otherwise casts the party wounded into the snow; if death should follow it throws the sufferer into various attitudes which are assumed in the extreme pain accompanying death. The moment death takes place the frost fixes the limbs in whatever situation they happen to be and which cannot be reduced to decent order until they are thawed. In this state the bodies of the slain are deposited in the dead house as hard as ice."

*From "Montgomery at Quebec," by Clinton Scollard

Then began a weary imprisonment for over seven months. At first they were treated very well. Carleton, the British Commander, had an idea that the rank and file were poor simple creatures deluded by their officers, and hoped to persuade them to enlist in the King's service. Quite a number did so, particularly the foreigners. but even with them it was only a cover for an attempt to escape, and soon most of them were back with the others.

Every man but one in Tolman's company spurned the suggestion.

A few extracts from Tolman's diary will show the condition of affairs that soon developed.

January 8 to 15. "The smallpox is very plenty with us."

January 15 to 19. "Captain Hubbard died of the wound he received a-coming in."

January 19. "This day I was taken down with the smallpox and carried to the hospital, and in 15 days was able to return to the prison."

February 5. "Seven of our men died with the smallpox and one man died with the pleurisy. He was sick but 4 days."

February 5th to 9th. "Forty men lay sick in prison."

February 12th to 16th. "This morning 60 men went to the hospital with the smallpox."

March 25th to 30th. "We are in a miserable condition, having no wood. We almost freeze."

At the time they were thus without fire, probably the temperature was below zero. It was the severest winter, with one exception, that the oldest inhabitant of Quebec could remember.

Early in March most of the common soldiers had been moved from their first place of confinement to what was known as the "Dauphin" jail, which was in the upper town, about 300 yards from the St. John gate.

It had stone walls three feet thick and sunken windows heavily barred with iron. Round it was a massive wall some twenty feet high.

In the basement was a new door below the level of St. John Street, which excited the interest of the prisoners. It suggested possibilities and gradually there grew up a most elaborate conspiracy. To escape? That would not content them. They had come there to capture Quebec and were resolved not to go home without it. They planned nothing less than to overpower the guard, then seize St. John's gate, capture cannon, and turn them on the city, admit Arnold's little force that still lingered outside, and then finish the job interrupted on December 31st.

Failing in the attempt to carry all this through they would scatter, and each for himself leap the precipice to the lower town.

At the top of a staircase they found a locked room. Picking the lock they found a quantity of iron junk, including some iron hoops about three inches wide, out of which they made crude swords and spearheads. Then they took out the bottoms of their berths and split them into shafts for their weapons. A few still had knives secreted when they came in. There was an axe or two which they had been allowed for cutting wood. Besides this there were a few clubs.

The prison guards, whose guard house was forty feet away, numbered but fourteen, and it was thought it would be easy to dispose of them and to take their arms. The guard at St. John's gate was composed of thirty regular

soldiers. At their post was quite an arsenal with cannon and ammunition. These cannon must be fired with fuses, and the thing that caused most trouble was providing a stock of them for use in case the guard, when attacked, carried off theirs. For these powder was absolutely necessary. Henry has a long and very amusing account of how the powder was finally obtained. They got it and the plan of campaign was completed. Sergeant Boyd, with a small body of picked men, was to kill the prison guard; a few others were appointed to set the jail and guard house on fire and hunt out the sentinels who, on account of the cold, might be in the sentry boxes. The main body under Sergeant Aston was to rush for St. John's gate, overpower the guard, turn the cannon on the city and wait for the arrival of their comrades from outside.

But how were their comrades on the outside to know anything about it? They had arranged that. A suit of white clothes, cap, shirt and overalls, had been constructed to fit, or rather cover, young John Martin, who was considered the spryest of their number. On a certain day he went into the yard for exercise with the others. At locking-up time there was unusual confusion and when the guards had finally hustled their charges inside, they never noticed that Martin had managed to don his white apparel and hide under a snow drift in the corner. There he remained until dark, then scaled the wall, ran to the left of St. John's Gate, and leaped the dizzy precipice into a snow-drift twenty-five feet deep.

There was one place in the jail from which could be seen Arnold's camp outside. At daylight the next morning eager eyes looked out, and behold! the American flag had a knot tied in it. This was the signal that their plan was known and approved, and cooperation was ready.

The night of April 1st was the time appointed—and then, just one little thing went wrong.

They intended to go out the basement door. They already knew how to take off both lock and hinges, but there was ice about the bottom of it. Two men who had knives were appointed to remove that without making any noise. But a well meaning fool who did not belong to the inner circle suddenly thought of this ice and went to remove it himself with an axe. The guard heard the chopping and made inquiry. Even then no serious harm was done. Plausible explanations were offered and were about to be accepted, when John Hall, who was a deserter from the British at Boston (although it was not then known) pushed forward and confessed the plot to its minutest detail.

There could not be much more to the story. Tolman gives it in a few words: "At this we were put all in to strong irons."

These were great iron bars twelve feet long and three inches in diameter, to each of which ten or twelve men were secured. Most of them had handcuffs as well as foot irons. The handcuffs did not trouble Tolman greatly, for his wrists were so large that he could slip them. Several of his companions could do the same. They set to work, and helped the others, and within a few days Yankee ingenuity had picked every lock, and so changed them that when trusted sentinels announced the approach of the guard there was a wild scramble of prisoners to get back into their irons. They were never caught, though this condition of affairs continued until the eighth of May.

The fun and good humor which had heretofore supported them now gave way to despair. Their clothing, worn without change in the four months of imprisonment, was in rags, indescribably filthy, with dirt and vermin. Their exercise was cut off. The food grew less and worse.

Scurvy in its most virulent form appeared—a disease far more feared than smallpox. The teeth of those attacked fell out and their flesh fairly rotted on their bones. Many died.

Tolman was not writing much in his diary these days—only this: "May the 1st to the 6th. Nothing strange—but in great distress and despair."

The final relief of the survivors came from a most unexpected quarter.

It has been mentioned that originally General Carleton had an idea of enlisting them in the British Army. Now he thought of something more brilliant, even this—reasoning that these poor misguided men had had their lesson, he thought that if sent home they would tell their countrymen how powerful England was, and become missionaries for peace.

And send them back he did; and in August, 1776, their ships approached New York.

The patriots were in possession of the city just then (though about to lose it—see John White), and it was no place to land, so they were put ashore on a New Jersey beach, at midnight, and simply turned loose.

One writer says that some of them were so rejoiced that they "kissed the soil." He then goes on to record that they "ran foot races to Elizabethport and there spent the rest of the night singing, dancing and giving the Indian war whoop."

The attitude of the people of Elizabethport is not commented on, but there is something in this story suggesting that they were hospitable and probably provided refreshments.

As peace advocates Tolman and his friends were dead failures. On the contrary, when at liberty to do so after their exchange, they got back into service just as quickly as possible.

The battle of Hubbardston, in which First Sergeant Tolman took part, was July 7, 1777. (See David Kimball.) As St. Clair retreated from Ticonderoga there followed a long train of invalids who could not keep up and last, fully six miles back, was Hale's Regiment acting as rear guard. Hale himself was sick and unfit for duty. The regiment was small. When attacked by a superior force of the best of Burgoyne's troops they did the best they could, but, as usually happens with rear guards, suffered severely.

The Colonel, Adjutant, three Captains and one hundred men were taken prisoners, and the gallant Major Titcomb was severely wounded. Colonel Hale died in the enemies' hands.

Tolman, as he says in his pension application, soon after became an invalid. This is not surprising. The only wonder is that he remained alive. It was several years before he regained his health.

He provided a good substitute to take his place. Amos Boynton had been a Sergeant in the same company with Tolman, both at Bunker Hill and on the expedition to Quebec. He also came from Fitzwilliam.

In 1781 Tolman married Mary Clark and continued to live at Fitzwilliam until about 1787, when he moved to Marlboro and soon after to Packersfield.

He is shown as living in the latter place in the first United States Census of 1790.

Settled on the farm now occupied by Mr. Wilmer C. Tolman, which has been in the possession of the family ever since. All the Tolmans that have ever lived in Nelson were his descendants.

Died in Nelson December 27, 1838, at the age of 90 years, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

ELEAZER TWITCHELL.

Born January 22, 1744.

Came to Monadnock No. 6 (afterwards Packersfield and Nelson) prior to 1772, and was one of the most active citizens in public matters. Settled on what was afterwards known as the Captain Scripture place. In 1774 had 20 acres cleared, 7 more cut over, a "Pole" house and a family.

Elected Selectman March 15, 1774, in first Board after incorporation.

Member of the Committee on Correspondence, elected April 18, 1775 (the day before Lexington), his colleagues being Dr. Nathaniel Breed and Joseph Stanhope.

Captain of Packersfield Militia Company in 1775 and afterwards.

Sent as delegate to Provincial Congress at Exeter May 9, 1775, his colleague being Dr. Nathaniel Breed.

September 25, 1775, elected Chairman of Committee of Inspection, his colleagues being Benjamin Nurse, John French, Amos Skinner and Abijah Brown.

Signer of Association Test in April, 1776.

April 4, 1777, appointed, with Lieutenant Amos Skinner, to carry Presentment against Breed Batchelder to Colonel Enoch Hale.

August 5, 1777, elected chairman of Committee of Safety, his colleagues being George Brintnall, Seth Cobb, Shadrach Hill and Jonathan Drury.

December 8, 1777, elected on a Committee to arrange for joint representation in General Court for towns of Packersfield, Stoddard, Gilsum and Washington, his colleagues being James Bancroft, Joel Wright, John Adams and Richard Stoddard.

What is now known as Harrisville Pond was formerly called from him "Twitchell" Pond.

Removed to Bethel, Maine, where also went Absalom Farwell and Jonathan Blodgett.

STEPHEN TWITCHELL.

In Captain Abijah Smith's Company for New York, enlisted out of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment of Militia, and mustered by him, September 21, 1776.

Amos Skinner in same company.

In Captain John Mellin's Company, of Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment, which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga on the Alarm in 1777. Service 5 days. June 28 to July 2nd.

John Farwell, John Morse, James Bancroft, Oliver Wright, Thomas K. Breed, Joseph Stanhope, John Wellman, Benjamin Nurse and Seth Cobb in the same company.

Living in Packersfield as early as 1788.

THOMAS UPHAM.

An early settler, his name appearing frequently in Proprietors' books in 1773. In 1774 had 6 acres cleared, 12 more cut over, a "Pole" house and a family.

Quite likely one of the 27 who marched from Packersfield April 21, 1775, on the Lexington Alarm.

Signer of the "Association Test" in April, 1776.

In Captain James Lewis' Company of Col. Enoch Hale's Regiment, which marched June 29, 1777, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Thomas Heald to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga. Returned July 3.

In Captain James Lewis' Company in Colonel Daniel Moore's Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers that marched from Marlboro to join the Continental Army at Saratoga, September 28 to October 4, 1777.

Lived in North East Quarter on what is now known as the Parker Hart place.

ROBERT USHER.

In Captain Benjamin Spaulding's Company of Militia in Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment raised by the State of New Hampshire, and joined the Continental Army at West Point. From July 8 to October 21, 1780.

In same company with Noah Hardy, John and Thomas K. Breed and Elijah Stocker.

Came to town near close of war and settled next north of Hiram Holt's place.

Removed to Merrimac, N. H.

SOLOMON WARDWELL.

Born in Andover, Mass., in 1743, where he maried Bethia Holt in 1767, and resided in 1775, being a cabinet-maker by trade, with a shop on the present site of Phillipps Academy.

Was a member in Captain Henry Abbot's Company of Minute Men, which marched from Andover, on the Lexington Alarm of April 19, 1775.

The alarm was given at about sunrise and Minute Men were ready to march for Concord at about ten o'clock. On their way through Tewksbury they learned that eight Americans had been killed at Lexington; at Billerica, that the British were killing Americans at Concord. Reaching Bedford, they learned more definitely that two Americans had been killed at Concord and that the enemy were falling back. When it appeared impossible to overtake them, some, including Wardwell, returned home.

Continued an active member of the town militia and took the field for a short period on at least one other occasion. His name appears on a payroll of Captain John Peabody's Company of Colonel Ebenezer Francis' Regiment, dated November 29, 1776.

By deed dated September 26, 1777, purchased for £400 a farm in Hollis, New Hampshire.

In October, 1783, as one of the Selectmen of Hollis, sent a letter to the New Hampshire Committee of Safety, which is found in New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 16, page 693.

Early in 1784 he removed to Packersfield, where he was Selectman in 1786, and a prominent citizen for many years, holding most of the town offices and being a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1791.

Built a house on what was known as Lot 2, Range 8, in the Northeast Part of the Town, which was subsequently deeded to his son Ezra.

Died in Nelson, September 20, 1825, aged 82.

REUBEN WELLMAN.

Located in the North East Quarter about 1774.

Signer of the Association Test, April, 1776.

September 17, 1776, chosen as a member of the Committee of "Safety, Inspection and Correspondence," his colleagues being Dr. Nathaniel Breed, James Bancroft, John Adams and Aaron Beal.

In Captain Francis Town's Company of Colonel David Gilman's Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire in December, 1776, to reinforce the Continental Army in New York. Service from December 5, 1776, to March 12, 1777.

SAMUEL WELLMAN.

July 10, 1770, enlisted from Packersfield in the Continental Army. The record in New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 15, page 646, states that the term of service was "during the war." In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 16, page 751, is a certificate of Stephen Parker and Archelus Wilson, Selectmen of Packersfield, that they paid Samuel Wellman and John Taylor "for going in the Continental Army for one year Sixty Pounds each."

Apparently before this he was in Captain James Lewis' Company of New Hampshire Volunteers that marched from Marlborough and joined the Continental Army at Saratoga September 28th to October 24th, 1777.

This seems to have been a different Samuel Wellman from the messmate of John White, who at the time of his pension application, July 4, 1820, lived in Hinsdale, N. H. In such application he says: "In 1776, January 1st, I enlisted at Roxbury in Mass. for one year in Capt. Moses Knap's Company in Col. Joseph Reed's Regiment. I marched to New York City. Was at Peekskill, at the White Plains, and I was in the battles of East Chester and Trenton. I was discharged at Trenton 1st of January, 1777."

NATHAN WESTON (Wesson).

In Captain Josiah Brown's Company in Colonel Enoch Hale's Regiment which marched from New Ipswich June 29, 1777, to reinforce the Garrison at Ticonderoga, and proceeded as far as No. 4 (Charlestown), where they were ordered back by an express from Colonel Bellows, and returned to Rindge July 3rd. On the 4th received orders to march forward and went to Rutland, where they met our army on the retreat. Thirty of the company had horses.

Allen Breed and Joseph Felt in same company.

An artillery "artificer" in Continental Army 1778, 1779, 1780. Second Lieutenant in Captain Nathaniel Chapman's Company of Artillery and Artificers commanded by Colonel Benjamin Flower. Stationed at Philadelphia. Afterward employed in the arsenal at Springfield, Mass., under the direction of Major Joseph Eayrs from November 1, 1779, to March 18, 1780.

Apparently both of these enlistments were from Hollis, N. H.

April 2, 1782, James Bancroft, of Packersfield, deeded to Nathan Weston, "of Packersfield," land in the southeast quarter and he subsequently resided there for many years.

ABIJAH WETHERBEE.

Born in Lunenburg, Mass., August 26, 1761; son of Paul and Hannah (Pierce) Wetherbee.

In Captain Aaron Guild's Company of Col. Josiah Whitney's Regiment stationed at Hull, in Boston Harbor, from June till October, 1776.

April 1, 1777, enlisted from Lunenburg for three years in Captain Sylvanus Smith's Company of Col. Timothy Bigelow's Regiment, 15th Massachusetts Line, Continental Army. Discharged April 1, 1780.

In his pension declaration, sworn to July 7, 1820, among other things about his service, he said that he "was at the taking of Burgoyne; at two engagements on Rhode Island, and at the battle of Monmouth." He was also with Washington at Valley Forge during the terrible winter of 1777-78. (See William Parker and Levi Wilder.)

For the "taking of Burgoyne" see David Kimball, and for the battle of Rhode Island see Timothy Bancroft.

The battle of Monmouth occurred June 28, 1778. When General Clinton marched the British Army from Philadelphia to New York he was pursued and there attacked by the Americans, under General Charles Lee, who had come up from Valley Forge. Washington, arriving on the field later, met his army in disorderly retreat. By a wonderful exhibition of personal power he turned them back and changed defeat into victory. During the proceedings he took occasion to tell Lee, with great particularity, what he thought of him.

David Kimball said that Washington was *"always* calm and dignified." Wetherbee might have qualified it something like this:

"Outward cool when combat waging,
  Howsoever inward raging.
Ne'er had Washington shown feeling
  When his forces fled the foe.
But to-day his forehead lowered, and
  We shrank his wrath untoward.
As on Lee his bitter speech was hurled
  In hissing tones and low;
Sir, what means this wild confusion?
  Is it cowardice or collusion?
Is it treachery or fear brings you here?"*

General Scott, of Virginia, on being asked if he ever heard Washington swear answered: "Yes, once; it was at Monmouth on a day that would have

*From "The Battle of Monmouth," by Thomas Dunn English.

made any man swear. Yes, sir, he swore on that day till the leaves shook on the trees—charming, delightfully. Never have I enjoyed such swearing before or since. Sir, on that memorable day he swore like an angel from Heaven."

Lee was court-martialed and convicted of misconduct in the presence of the enemy. Absolute proof of his treason was discovered many years later.

Wetherbee came to Packersfield almost immediately after his discharge, remained there eight or nine years, and afterwards lived in Swansy, Gilsum, Surry and Sullivan. He died in Sullivan April 20, 1840, at the house of his son, Captain Thomas T. Wetherbee, and is buried in the old Cemetery at Sullivan Four Corners. His stone reads:

"Abijah Wetherbee
died
April 20, 1840
at 78
A Revolutionary Soldier."

BENJAMIN WHEELER.

Born in Hollis, N. H., July 29, 1763. Son of Peter Wheeler.

Enlisted May 3, 1775, in Captain Jonathan Whitcomb's Company in Colonel James Reed's Regiment.

Probably at Bunker Hill June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Came to Packersfield prior to 1785.

JACOB WHEELER.

Born in Acton, Mass, March 17, 1850. (?)

Member of Captain Samuel Stone's Company of Minute Men, Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, that marched from Ashby, Mass., to Cambridge on the Alarm of April 19, 1775.

Came to Packersfield about 1777. Settled in northeast quarter on "Prospect Hill," afterwards called "City Hill."

Died in Nelson December 27, 1841. Buried in the cemetery on the Town Common. His gravestone states his age was 92.

PETER WHEELER.

Born Bedford, Mass., January 17, 1731.

At the outbreak of the war living in Temple, N. H.

One of the 56 who marched from Temple on the Lexington Alarm April, 1775, absent six and one-half days.

In December, 1775, one of the 18 who enlisted from Temple for six weeks to take the place, at the siege of Boston, of the eight months men whose enlistments were expiring.

Probably the Peter Wheeler who was in Captain Stephen Parker's Company in Colonel Moses Nichols' Regiment and General John Stark's Brigade, which marched from New Ipswich July 19, 1777, and joined the Northern Continental Army under General Gates at Stillwater. Discharged September 20, 1777. In battle of Bennington August 16, 1777. (See Stephen Parker and Richard Farwell.)

In Captain Gershon Drury's Company of Militia from Temple, N. H., which marched with Colonel Daniel Moor's Regiment September 29, 1777, and

joined the Northern Continental Army at Saratoga. Discharged October 26, 1777.

These 1777 records may refer to father and son.

Soon after this came to Packersfield. Died there September 17, 1792, and is buried in the Cemetery on the Town Common.

URIAH WHEELER.

Born in Sudbury, Mass., January 26, 1747, and living there at the outbreak of the war.

When, about six weeks before the beginning of hostilities, John Nixon (afterwards Colonel and General) organized a company of Minute Men in Sudbury, Wheeler joined as a Corporal, and the records show that he attended drills March 12th, 20th, 27th and April 3rd, 10th and 17th, 1775. Ezra Smith and Robert Eames were in the same company.

On the Lexington Alarm April 19th, 1775, he marched with the company and was at the Concord Bridge. (See William Barker and Ezra Smith.) Probably took part in the fight at Merriam Corner and pursued the British as far as Cambridge.

There he enlisted as Sergeant in Captain David Moore's Company of Colonel John Nixon's Regiment, and was at the battle of Bunker Hill June 17, 1775. (See Samuel Griffin.)

Moore's Company arrived late on the field and fell in at the left of the redoubt next to Reid's Regiment. Hudson's History of Sudbury has this to say of them: "The protection of the provincials at this point was weak; no entrenchments were there to protect them from the foe. The most favored had but a few rude improvised works, hastily constructed after their arrival on the ground, but the position of the regiment in which the Sudbury men served was the most exposed of any in that poorly protected column. A part of the line had not the slightest protection whatever. The only attempt that was made to construct a breastwork was by the gathering of some newly mown hay that was scattered about the place. But they were prevented from the completion of even such a slight breastwork as this. The foe advanced and they had to desist."

In 1781 he resided in Packersfield on the Melville place. For some reason his establishment was very attractive. Such entries as this occur in the records of town meetings: "January 16, 1786, voted to adjourn for one quarter of an hour to House of Uriah Wheeler."

At a town meeting held January 1, 1782, he was chosen a member of a Committee "to consider the new form of government" (referring to a proposed State Constitution), his colleagues being Rev. Jacob Foster, Capt. James Bancroft, William Barker, Amos Child, Lieut. Peletiah Day and Lieut. Archelus Wilson.

Left town about 1787.

LEVI WHITCOMB.

Son of Job and Jemima (Farr) Whitcomb. Born in Templeton, Mass., April 24, 1763.

October 28, 1786, Jonas Davis, of Packersfield, deeded to Levi Whitcomb, of Templeton, land in Packersfield.

In "The Whitcomb Family of America" it is stated that he "was married February 13, 1787, to Hannah Baker, who was born January 21, 1764. They settled in Nelson, N. H., where they lived until 1801, when they removed to that part of Marlborough which became Troy. He was a blacksmith and later purchased a farm upon which he died September 23, 1827. His wife died February 16, 1825. *He served for a while in the Revolutionary Army.* Dates and terms of service are wanting."

In Packersfield he succeeded David Averill in a blacksmith shop near the outlet of White's Pond.

JOHN WHITE.

Born in Mansfield, Mass., September 18, 1757.

General Griffin has the following account of him:

"John White was a 'minute man' from Mansfield, Mass., and was called out at the Battle of Lexington. The corps to which he belonged remained near Boston for some time and then went to New York. They were stationed on Brookline Heights at the time of the battle of Bunker Hill, were in sight of the battle, had plenty of ammunition and desired very much to go, but were ordered to remain where they were. He was in engagements at Long Island, Trenton, Princeton, Harlem Heights, White Plains and Rhode Island. At the retreat from Long Island he was among the last to escape. The British drove the Americans to their boats, and as they came down upon them their officers gave the command, 'Ready,' 'Aim,' and at the word 'Fire' our men dropped in the boats to avoid the shot. In the boat where White was every man 'ducked' except Major Hendley, a noble officer, who sat erect in the stern of the boat, disdaining to flinch. The consequence was he was completely riddled with balls, being struck in nineteen places, while not another man was hurt.

At White Plains Mr. White saw "Old Put" when his old white mare was shot down under him. The British were within sixty rods and rapidly advancing, and the old General left the beast and ran a few steps, then turning suddenly round, he says, 'They shan't have my pistols,' and trudging back as stiff as an old war horse he pulled them from the holsters, fired them both at the advancing foe and then hobbled after his retreating men.

Mr. White has handed down to us one narrative of thrilling interest connected with the plot of Conway and others against Washington. From the frequent attempts to capture or destroy him, Washington had deemed it advisable to have a body guard constantly in attendance upon him, but he discovered in time that even those men, in whose hands he had entrusted his life, had been corrupted and were about to sacrifice him. At the time named the army was encamped near the North River and Washington had his headquarters in a house which stood very near the bank, so that the conspirators had dug a trench, from a concealed place among the bushes under the bank, directly under the house, working by night and carrying their gravel into the stream and covering the mouth of the trench with brush during the day.

The plot was nearly completed when the movements of some of the gang excited the suspicions of one of Washington's aids, who then managed to join the conspirators for the purpose of exposing them. He allowed them to

go on until the trench was completed and the powder placed in the mine. Then he informed his commander what was to have taken place that night.

The regiment to which Mr. White belonged was stationed about 100 rods from the house. They saw Washington coming down alone, and the men were called to arms. Taking the Commander, Col. Heath, aside, he talked with him a few minutes, then returning to the troops he said to them: 'If New England men respect me enough to guard me this night, so let it be; if not, I go.'

Col. Heath asked him how many men he would have. He replied, 'None but volunteers.' The drum beat for volunteers and every man turned out.

Says Washington, 'If you desire to serve me and your country, surround that house and secure every man, woman and child in or about it.' Each wing of the regiment wheeled from the centre and marched in contrary directions, coming round to the house and surrounding it from opposite sides. The whole gang was captured and tried by court martial, and the ringleader, Thomas Hickey, was sentenced to be hung. The others were sentenced to the Sinsbury mines for life.

When Hickey was hung White was one of the guard of 52 men, picked from as many different companies, who performed that duty.

This story is confirmed by Herrick, of Marlboro, and others who were soldiers and present at the time."

An examination of the Massachusetts Rolls and Mr. White's pension declaration, verified July 4, 1820, confirms most of the foregoing.

His name appears on a roll of Captain Samuel White's Company of Colonel J. Dagget's Regiment of minute men that marched from Mansfield in response to the Lexington Alarm April 19, 1775.

A few days later it appears that he enlisted for eight months in Captain Moses Knap's Company of Colonel Joseph Reed's Regiment and served till January 1, 1776.

January 1, 1776, he re-enlisted for one year in the same company and Regiment. Samuel Wellman was a "messmate."

After the evacuation of Boston in March, 1776, they marched to New York.

White says he was "in the battle of *Long Island,* and the battles of *Harlem Heights* on York Island." Wellman says he was "at the *White Plains*" and "in the battles of *East Chester* and *Trenton.* (See Samuel Felt.)

White's pension declaration says that he was "honorably discharged on account of ill health in December, 1776." The battle of Trenton was December 26, 1776, indicating that he could not have taken part. This is confirmed by an affidavit of White, attached to Wellman's application, in which, after stating that they were in the same company and "messmates," he add: "Some of the first days of December in the same year of 1776, then being at Peekskill in the State of New York, and I being an invalid, said regiment was ordered to march to the Jerseys. I saw said Wellman march off with the regiment, and I saw him no more until I saw him at home some time after his time of service had expired."

The battle of Princeton was January 3, 1777, so it seems certain that White was at neither Trenton nor Princeton.

On the other hand, it is probable that he performed considerable militia service not mentioned in his declaration, as at the time he made it such service did not count for a pension.

He certainly was at Long Island, Harlem Heights and White Plains.

The Battle of Long Island, which White mentions, is worthy of note.

The Declaration of Independence was adopted July 4, 1776. At that time the main patriot army relied upon for its maintenance was at New York. There were not more than 9,000 men all told. Of these *at least two thousand were destitute of firearms*, and the weapons of half the others were in such bad condition they were scarcely fit for use. They had little ammunition, and their Commissary Department was in a most wretched condition.

As Howe with his superb British Army, just refitted at Halifax, approached appeals were made to all the colonies from Massachusetts to Virginia to collect every man and every old musket and shotgun and come to oppose him.

Many came till there was an army, on paper, of twenty thousand men, but such an army! No less than six thousand of them were sick. Says Mr. Fisher in his "Struggle for American Independence": "Besides disease, which was so prevalent among them, they were a most undisciplined, disorderly rabble, marauding on the inhabitants and committing all kinds of irregularities. * * * To handle such a disorganized mob so as to offer any respectable resistance to Howe's disciplined troops was a task requiring qualities of mind and character which few men besides Washington possessed."

There was, however, a nucleus of good men from the veterans like White, and most of the others were brave, and much more efficient than they looked.

The British Army landed on Staten Island. Washington's headquarters were on Manhattan Island, or "York Island," as White calls it, in the "City" which then was only a village on the southern point.

Defensive works were thrown up on Brooklyn Heights across the East river, and eight thousand of the best troops were placed in charge.

Howe crossed over from Staten Island to Long Island with twenty thousand and, on August 27th, made a general attack.

The Americans outnumbered, and in some respects, outgeneralled, fought with surprising bravery, but suffered severely. The 28th found the survivors hemmed in with the river behind them and apparently no chance of escape as the British fleet was in the harbor. It rained, however, and the wind was tempestuous, so the ships did not move. Washington sent reinforcements, all he had, so that the force was increased to about ten thousand men, and himself took charge. The wind and rain continued on the 29th. Mr. Fisher tells the rest of the story as follows: "Washington was unwilling to trust any longer to the northeast wind, because the British trenches were coming nearer, and his troops had been standing in the pelting rain for nearly two days, without sleep, not daring to lie down at night, and with nothing to eat but cold bread and raw pork. He had himself been riding along the lines to encourage the men during all that time, without leaving the saddle.

He accordingly issued an order, during the morning, to collect every kind of boat that could be found along the neighboring shores, for the ostensible purpose of carrying the sick and wounded to New York, and bringing some fresh regiments from New Jersey. At eight o'clock in the evening, the embarkation began, with much marching, and countermarching. As each regiment departed to the shore, at Fulton Ferry, another would be moved or

extended to fill the gap, and the fires were kept burning, and the outposts at their stations.

At first the northeast wind rendered the movements of the boats to the opposite shore very slow, but before midnight the weather cleared and the wind changed to southeast, so that Glover's Massachusetts men from Marblehead and Hutchinson's from Salem, most of them seamen, could use sails on the boats. But, even with this advantage, there were some six regiments still in the works, when daylight appeared, and they could hear the pickaxes and shovels of the British in the trenches. Luckily, a morning fog arose, and under cover of it these regiments slipped down to the ferry. The whole army of nearly ten thousand, with their prisoners, wounded, baggage and stores, got safely across to New York, and it has been counted one of the most skillfully conducted retreats of history."

For the subsequent campaign, including Harlem Heights and White Plains, see Samuel Felt.

The battle of Harlem Heights on September 15, in which White participated, was fought by the rear guard of the American army, under General Putnam, protecting the retreat of the main body toward the north. The troops engaged suffered greatly, but fought exceedingly well, thereby relieving to some extent the depression caused by the loss at Long Island.

"They've turned at last! Good-by, King George,
Despite your hireling band!
The farmer boys have borne a brunt,
The prentice lads will stand!
Though Peace may lag and Fortune flag,
Our fight's as good as won;
We've made them yield in open field!
We've made the Redcoats run!" *

No wonder White mentioned it, as connection with Harlem Heights was always regarded with pride. The campaign of the summer of 1776 was one of the hardest of the whole war, and it is not surprising that his health broke down under it.

The plot against the life of Washington, to which Griffin refers, occurred in June, 1776, before the arrival of the British. This, however, was not the "Conway" plot,—that came later. The officer mentioned was probably not "Colonel" Heath, but General William Heath of Massachusetts, who, in his diary, published in 1798, under the title "Memoirs of the American War," makes mention of the Hickey incident and says he was hung June 28, 1776, adding "the same day the British arrived at Sandy Hook."

This diary has recently been reprinted with, among others, the following editorial note:

"Washington, in June, 1776, had his headquarters in the house down at Richmond Hill, near the present intersection of Charlton and Varrick Streets, New York. Comely Phœbe Fraunces, daughter of a well known publican,† of the town, was the housekeeper, and to her fidelity he owed the defeat of the conspiracy referred to by Heath. William Tryon, late royal governor of New York, from his refuge on board a British man of war

*From "Haarlem Heights," by Arthur Guiterman.

† Fraunces Tavern still stands, and is owned and occupied as headquarters, by the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution.

lying in the harbor, had laid, with friends on shore, a plot to seize the town. One part of the plan was to murder the American commander by Thomas Hickey, a British deserter who had become a member of Washington's bodyguard. But Hickey lost his heart to Phœbe Fraunces, and made her his confidante. She revealed the plot to her father, who made it known to Washington. Hickey, when arrested, confessed his crime, and revealed the details of the plot. David Matthews, the royalist mayor of the town, convicted of correspondence with Tryon, was thrown into jail, while Hickey, as Heath relates, was hanged at the intersection of Grand and Chrystie Streets, in the presence of twenty thousand spectators."

The expression, afterwards frequently heard, "put none but Americans on guard" originated at that time.

White came to Packersfield about 1781, and located on the farm now owned by Mr. John Stevens. He died in Nelson, December 21, 1846, at the age of 89, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

SAMUEL WHITE.

Born July 29, 1750, in Norton (afterwards called Mansfield), Mass. The son of Captain Samuel White who commanded the local Militia Company and saw much service from 1775 to 1780.

"The Nicholas White Family," an admirable genealogical work, says of the younger Samuel, that he "married November 30, 1773, Mary, daughter of Nathan and Judith (White) Williams of Mansfield. They moved to Packersfield (now Nelson), N. H., during the Revolutionary war, or soon after. He enlisted in the war from Mansfield, and *was much engaged in the revolutionary service.*"

The name "Samuel White" appears very frequently on the Massachusetts Rolls throughout the war, but the residence is usually not given, so just what relates to the subject of this sketch cannot with certainty be identified beyond the fact that he was in Captain John Allen's company, enlisted July 27, 1780, on a Rhode Island "Alarm."

He located in Packersfield, first on the old road running north over City Hill, and afterwards on a part of the "Gardner Fletcher" place where he died February 8, 1798.

JOSIAH WHITNEY.

Born at Harvard, Mass., February 25, 1753. Son of Colonel, afterwards General Josiah Whitney, who was active throughout the war.

The younger Josiah, as a corporal, was a member of Captain Jonathan Davis' Company of Colonel John Whitcomb's Regiment of Minute Men, which marched from Harvard to Cambridge on the Alarm of April 19, 1775. Absent 19 days.

Member of Captain Manasseh Sawyer's Company of Colonel Nicholas Dikes Regiment from July to December, 1776. Stationed about Boston.

Probably other service.

Came to Packersfield about 1779. Settled in the northeast quarter on the place now owned by Miss Green. Died there January 2, 1827. Buried in cemetery on the Town Common.

OLIVER WHITNEY.

Born in Natick, Mass., in 1745.

In Captain Joseph Morse's company of Colonel Samuel Bullard's Regiment which marched from Natick in response to the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775.

Enlisted April 25, 1775, probably for eight months, in Captain James Mellen's Company of Colonel Jonathan Ward's Regiment.

Probably other service.

Came to Packersfield prior to 1785, and located in the south part.

Removed to Cavendish, Vt., where he died in 1815.

LEVI WILDER.

Born in West Boylston, then part of Lancaster, Mass., August 11, 1758.

From December 8, 1775, to January 17, 1776, and perhaps longer, in Captain White's Company before Boston. Enlisted from Lancaster.

In Captain Samuel Sawyer's Company of Colonel Jonathan Smith's Regiment, four months service in New York ending December 1, 1776. In the engagement at Kips Bay, September 15, 1776. Enlisted from Lancaster.

May 24, 1777, enlisted from Sterling, Mass., for three years in Captain Joseph Hodgkins Company of Colonel Timothy Bigelow's Regiment, Fifteenth Massachusetts Continental Line. Discharged May 24, 1780.

In a pension declaration, verified April 4, 1818, Wilder stated that in the summer of 1777 he joined the Continental Army at Stillwater, and "was at the taking of Burgoyne." (See David Kimball.) Then marched to Pennsylvania and wintered at Valley Forge, 1777-78. (See William Parker.) In the spring of 1778 marched to Monmouth, N. J. (See Abijah Wetherbee), and later to Rhode Island, where spent the winter of 1778-79 under General Sullivan. Then went to White Plains, N. Y. Spent the winter of 1779-80 in the Highlands near West Point. (See David Kimball.)

On his discharge married Sarah Moody, and lived for a time in Templeton, Mass., where their eldest child Clarissa was born, July 27, 1785.

March 15, 1786, Clement March and others deeded to Levi Wilder of Templeton, Mass., land in the southwest quarter of Packersfield. In the latter place the births of the following children of Levi and Sarah were subsequently recorded, viz.: Abner, May 15, 1787; Sally, January 24 1791; Rebecca, September 26, 1792; and Levi, June 29, 1796. He subsequently removed to Cornish, N. H., where he was living at the time of his pension declaration.

After stating his service and discharge, he adds: "This deponent further says that, in August, 1786, he lived in a house in Nelson in this county of Cheshire, then called Packersfield, and there had his said discharge, when on the 27th day of said August this deponent's said house was consumed by fire while this deponent and his family were all absent at public worship, and the said discharge together with the other contents of said house was consumed by said fire."

ARCHELAUS WILSON.

Born in Woburn, Mass., August 11, 1746. At the outbreak of the war living in Temple, N. H.

Marched from Temple to Cambridge on the Lexington Alarm, absent 14 days.

Came to Packersfield in 1777 or 1778, and settled about a mile and a half northeast of the center on "Prospect Hill" (later called City Hill), where there were in recent times some large willow trees near a cellar hole.

At a town meeting held March 29, 1779, was elected Selectman. In the Clerk's Minutes is given the title "Lieutenant."

In New Hampshire State Papers, Vol. 16, at page 751, is the following:

> "The State of New Hampshire, Debtr. to the Town of Packersfield, in the County of Cheshire, in the State of New Hampshire, to Thirty Pounds Paid to Jonathan French in July, 1779 for going to Rhode Island. Thirty Pounds bounty and twelve pounds travel money, and to Samuel Wellman and John Taylor at the same time for going in the Continental Army for one year Sixty Pounds, each we received of Constables of Packersfield aforesaid, being paid out of their State Tax, which we humbly request may be paid to said Constables and that an order on their account may be drawn on the treasury, in favor of Dr. Nathl. Breed, & As in Duty Bound We shall ever Pray.
>
> Stephen Parker } Selectmen of
> Archelus Wilson } Packersfield."

Was subsequently active in town affairs for many years. At a town meeting held March 20, 1787, it was "Voted to provide two carpenters to assist the Master Workman in framing the Meeting House. Voted that Lieut. Archelus Wilson and Mr. Allen Breed be the assistant workmen. Voted to allow the Master Workman six shillings per day and the other workmen four shillings per day. Voted to procure ten underhands to work at the meeting house and to allow said hands three shillings a day." Three shillings was the equivalent of fifty cents in silver. The "Master Workman" was Samuel Cummings.

Wilson died in Packersfield, June 28, 1802, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

JOSEPH WINCH.

Enlisted from Packersfield March 21, 1781, in Continental Army for three years.

Said to have come from Framingham, Mass., in which case probably had other service, but cannot certainly be identified.

JOEL WRIGHT

One of the town officers of Packersfield. Elected August 1, 1775.

Signer of the Association Test in April, 1776.

In Captain Francis Towne's Company in Colonel David Gilman's Regiment, raised by the State of New Hampshire in December, 1776, to reinforce the Continental Army in New York. Service from December 5th, 1776, to March 12, 1777.

NEHEMIAH WRIGHT.

Born in October 12, 1756, and living at Dunstable, N. H., at the outbreak of the war.

August 16, 1832, made a pension declaration which reads as follows:

"1st. In 1775 enlisted first of May for 8 months in Capt. Wm. Watkins Co., Col. James Reed's Regt., N. H. Troops. Joined the army at Cambridge. On guard and fatigue duty. Then to Charleston. Went onto Bunker Hill. Was in the battle of Bunker or Breed's Hill under Gen. Ward, or Gen. Pomeroy. (See Samuel Griffin.) Understood Gen. Putnam was then retreated back to Cambridge. I went onto Winter Hill, worked tending mason in building the barracks on Winter Hill. Remained there till my 8 months expired and was dismissed there the last day of December. Returned home.

"2nd. In 1776, first of September, enlisted for three months, Capt. Wm. Reed's Company, Col. Baldwin's N. H. Regt. Went to Hartford and was there in a guard of baggage wagons to Stamford, Conn. Then rejoined the company. Then through Horseneck and to White Plains. Was there attached to Lord Stirling's Brigade. Was in sight of the battle (White Plains), but was not allowed to have any part, being on guard. Returned to the Highlands. Dismissed there on the expiration of my term of service, which was the first of December. Went from Dunstable, N. H., where I then lived, into both services, and was in the New Hampshire troops in both services."

Wright was the maternal grandfather of Gen. Simon Goodell Griffin. The paternal grandfather of the latter was Samuel Griffin. The two grandfathers-that-were-to-be perhaps first met at Bunker Hill. (See story of the battle under Samuel Griffin.)

It would seem a little strange, that "Lord" Stirling should command an American brigade. He was not a real Lord, but was so called because he had once unsuccessfully claimed a lapsed Scotch title. Neither was his name "Stirling," but plain William Alexander of New Jersey.

Wright came to Packersfield in September, 1783, and settled near Long Pond.

He died in Nelson February 18, 1842.

OLIVER WRIGHT.

Born in Westford, Mass., April 14, 1758. A brother of Nehemiah Wright. At the outbreak of the war living in Dunstable, N. H.

August 16, 1832, he made a pension declaration which reads as follows:

"1st. In 1775 volunteered in December at Dunstable, N. H., in Capt. Blanchard's Co. N. H. troops; marched to Winter Hill, Mass. I was there attached to Col. James Reed's Regiment and was stationed at Temple's Farm, so called, till the barracks on Winter Hill were completed, then stationed there. Dismissed there after serving 6 months, and returned home.

"2nd. In 1776 volunteered again at Dunstable for 3 months. Capt. Wm. Reed's Co. Col. Baldwin's Regt. N. H. Troops. Marched to Hartford, Conn., and took charge of an ammunition wagon to Stamford, Conn., and then rejoined our company. Then through Horseneck to White Plains. Was put into Lord Sterling's Brigade. Was in sight of the battle (White Plains) but was not allowed to serve my part, being on guard, and was not in the battle. Then retreated to the Highlands and remained there till term of service expired. Was dismissed there the first of December.

"3rd. In 1777, last of June, volunteered again from Dunstable to go to Ticonderoga under Lieut. Adams. Marched as far as Marlboro, N. H., and then had orders to return home for Ticonderoga was taken. Joined no company. Was out 4 or 5 days and returned home.

"4th. In 1777, about the middle of August, took the place of Moses Hardy, Capt. Russell's company, Col. Bullard's Reg. Massachusetts troops. Went to Bennington and then to Mount Independence near Ticonderoga. Crossed the lake to the New York side to cover Col. Brown's retreat from Old Ti, and retreated back to Bemis Heights, and joined the main army there. Then followed Burgoyne to Saratoga. Was there when Burgoyne surrendered. From there down the river to below White Plains. Was dismissed there 1st of Dec. Was out about three and a half months.

"The first three services in New Hampshire troops, the last in Mass. Militia. Was born in Westford, Mass., in the year 1758. Was living in Dunstable in New Hampshire when went into all the services. Have lived in Nelson 48 years and now live there. Was a volunteer in all services, but was a substitute for Moses Hardy in the last service. Recollect in last service Gen. Gates, Col. Scammel and Col. Brown as mentioned. Josiah Robbins and Joshua Kittredge, both of Nelson aforesaid, are acquainted with me and can testify as to my veracity, and as to their belief of my services in the Revolution."

Wright came to Packersfield, according to his statement, in 1784. He lived in South East Quarter. Died in Nelson September 3, 1846, and is buried in the cemetery on the Town Common.

OLIVER WRIGHT, JR.

Enlisted from Packersfield and served in the Continental Army at West Point from July 18 to December 12, 1781.

At a town meeting held July 6, 1781, it was "Voted to give Mr. Oliver Wright Twenty-one Pounds in Silver and Winter Two Cows for his Serving the Town in the army until the Last day of December next. That the Selectmen agree to Cut Down Twelve acres of Land for Mr. Oliver Wright in Part of his hire. That William Barker go with Mr. Wright to see him mustered and make return."

As Oliver Wright, brother of Nehemiah, does not mention this service in his pension declaration, there were evidently two of the same name.

A JOURNAL OF THE EXPEDITION AGAINST QUEBEC, 1775, 1776,

Written by Private Ebenezer Tolman of Captain Samuel Ward's Company in Colonel Benedict Arnold's Detachment.

Tolman's Journal has had an extraordinary history. Owing to the circumstances under which it was produced, it was originally a rather crude affair and, in the course of time, it became worn and dilapidated to such extent that the last few pages were lost. Much interest was taken in it and Tolman, unfortunately, was induced to make two or three copies of it for his friends. After his death the original manuscript remained in the possession of his son Mr. William Tolman of Watertown, New York.

In April, 1852, the contents of most of it were printed in the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register" and attributed, not to Tolman, but to "Joseph Ware of Needham, Mass."

The "Register" was published by the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, of which, at that time, Mr. John Goodwin Locke of Boston was a prominent member. He knew about Tolman and his journal from the fact that Mrs. Tolman was a daughter of Sarah Locke, and at that very time he was compiling a genealogy of the Locke family. Perceiving that the Register had made a mistake, he at once wrote William Tolman and the latter mailed him the journal, receipt of which Locke acknowledged in a letter, still in existence, dated April 8, 1852.

In 1853, "The Book of the Lockes" was published. At page 323 the author, among other things, states that he had compared the Tolman manuscripts with that of Ware; that both were in the same handwriting; that the handwriting was that of Ebenezer Tolman; that the Ware document was evidently written at one time with one pen, and was clean and unworn, while the other, obviously written at many different times, was in a bad state of preservation, etc. He also recorded the statements of Tolman's children that their father had many times told them that he wrote it contemporaneously with the events recorded.

Thirty-three years later, in 1886, as part of the proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, exactly the same thing was printed again, and this time the author was said to have been "Ebenezer Wild."

In 1903, Mr. Justin H. Smith, then Professor of Modern History at Dartmouth College, published his admirable work, "Arnold's March from Cambridge to Quebec." While making his preliminary investigations, he naturally concluded that the same thing could not have been written by both Ware and Wilds. Before he was through he demonstrated conclusively not only that neither of them ever claimed he wrote such journal, but that they could not have written it, *for neither of them went on the expedition.* (The Ware in Tolman's Company was not the Needham man.) He further showed by official military records just where each of them was at the time. He became just as thoroughly convinced that Tolman did write it as that the others did not, and, in his book, pages 44, 273, treated the matter exhaustively,—it

is to be hoped, settling it forever. The present whereabouts of the original Journal seems somewhat of a mystery. Prof. Smith says,—"According to the son of William Tolman, who owned it in 1850, Mr. Locke was to have placed it for safe keeping in some historical library in Boston." Nobody seems to know exactly which one, if any, he selected. The Tolman family have a copy.

Prof. Smith suggests that several of those who wrote Journals, including Tolman, conferred while in prison and thus were each able to record some things not within his personal observation.

The following is what Ebenezer Tolman wrote.—Eds.

Sept. 13th. Marched from Cambridge in the evening and encamped at Malden that night.

14th. This morning marched very early, and encamped that evening at Beverley. This day marched 25 miles—the weather very sultry. Nothing material.

15th. This morning marched briskly along, and got into Newburyport at 8 o'clock at night, where we were to make a stay for some days.

16th. In Newburyport, waiting for the vessels, getting ready to carry us to Kennebec.

17th. This day had a general review, and our men appeared well, and in good spirits, and made a grand appearance, and we had the praise of hundreds of spectators, who were sorry to see so many brave fellows going to be sacrificed for their country.

18th. Had orders to embark in the evening; our fleet consisted of eleven sail of vessels,—sloops and schooners; our number of troops, consisted of 1300 and 11 companies of musketmen and three of riflemen. We were all embarked this evening and lay in the river all night.

19th. Early this morning weighed anchor with a pleasant gale, our colors flying, drums and fifes a playing, and the hills all around covered with pretty girls weeping for their departing swains. This night had like to have proved fatal to us, for we were close aboard of the rocks, before we knew anything about it. We were immediately all called upon deck, expecting every moment to be dashed in pieces against the rocks, but the wind fortunately freshening, we got clear after several tacks, to the great joy of us all.

20th. Arrived at Kennebec river, rowed and sailed up against the wind and tide.

21st. Arrived at fort Weston, where we halted for some days, and here we were furnished with bateaux and provisions, for carrying us up the river. Continued here the 22d, 23 and 24th.

25th. Embarked on board our bateaux and arrived at Fort Halifax in the evening of the 26th.

27th. Carried over Ticonic falls our bateaux and provisions, 40 rods land carriage, and then pushed up three miles.

28th. Pushed up eight miles, the water so bad that the bateaux men were obliged to drag the boats up over the shoals, and in many places were up to their chins in water.

29th. Pushed up to the second carrying-place, called Cohiggin falls.

30th. Carried over 60 rods and pushed up 3 miles.

October 1st. Pushed up over rocks and shoals, where we were many times over head in water, pulling the bateaux over, and arrived at the third carrying place in the evening.

2nd. This day carried over Norridgewalk falls, one mile and a quarter and then encamped very uncomfortably this night after carrying our boats over roots, and rocks and mud.

3d. Pushed up 11 miles on our way. Capt. Hendrick's company of riflemen shot a young moose which weighed about 200 lbs; but we had none of it, they being before us. This day we left all inhabitants, and entered an uncultivated country, and a barren wilderness. The timber for the most part is birch, pine, and hemlock. Some places on the river side, there are pieces of ground, where large sugar trees grow.

4th. Pushed up eight miles to Tintucket or Hell Gate falls, and carry over forty perches.

5th, 6th, & 7th. Pushed up to the head of Kennebec, where we carried out into a pond. These three last days we came about 20 miles.

8th. This day we pushed on very briskly, it being Sunday, the foremost company lying still on account of heavy rains, but we marched all day, it being very wet and cold, and we suffered a good deal from the inclemency of the weather, and came up with some of them at night.

9th, 10th, & 11th. Carried to the first pond 3½ miles land carriage, crossed the pond two miles.

12th, 13th. Carried to a second pond ¾ of a mile, crossed the pond one mile over, then carried 2 miles to a 3d pond and crossed the pond two miles over.

14th, 15th. Carried into Dead River three miles and went up one mile, then encamped at night. This river runs so still, that it can scarcely be perceived which way it runs; it is black water, about 4 rods wide and runs S. E.

16th. The water now being deep and dead, we betook ourselves to our barge and rowed up six miles.

17th. Rowed up (after carrying over a small carrying place, about 10 rods) 16 miles.

18th. Rowed up 20 miles, and carried over a small carrying place.

19th. Carried over 4 carrying places, and rowed up about five miles this day.[4]

20th, 21st, & 22d. Were detained in our tents by heavy rain.

23d. The water being shallow, we were obliged to lay by our oars, and take our setting poles; we pushed up 10 miles.

24th. Our provisions growing scanty, and some of our men being sick, held a council and agreed to send the sick back, and to send a Captain and 50 men forward to the inhabitants as soon as possible, that they might send us some provisions. Accordingly the sick were sent back, and Capt. Handchit with 50 men sent forward. Before this Col. Enos, with three captains and their companies turned back and took with them large stores of provisions and ammunition, being discouraged, (as we supposed) by difficulties they met with. This day got forward nine miles. The water very rapid and many of our boats were upset, and much of our baggage lost and provisions and guns.

25th. Snowed all night; very cold this morning, pushed over two carrying places, and got forward 8 miles this day.

26th. Pushed up 4 ponds and carried over two carrying places, one of them a mile over. The ground covered with snow.

27th. Crossed a pond ½ mile over, and carried 15 rods to another pond, 2 miles over, to the Great Carrying place, 4 miles and 50 perches over. Here it was agreed to leave most of our bateaux, being greatly fatigued by carrying over such hills, rocks and swamps, as were never passed by man before.

28th. After carrying over the Great carrying place, we encamped by a small stream, running into Chaudiere Pond; dealt out to each man four pints of flour and what little meat we had, which was about 4 oz. a man.[1]

29th. Early this morning set out for the head of Chaudiere river. This day we suffered greatly by our bateaux passing by us, for we had to wade waist high through swamps and rivers and breaking ice before us. Here we wandered round all day and came at night to the same place, we left in the morning, where we found a small dry spot, where we made a fire, and we were obliged to stand up all night in order to dry ourselves and keep from freezing. We continued so till next day when a bateaux came up and took us across the river.

30th. At noon were relieved from our miserable situation and we made the best of our way through the woods for Chaudiere.

31st. Pushed on for Chaudiere with all speed, in hopes of overtaking our bateaux in order to get some flour, for ours was all expended; but to our great grief and sorrow, our bateaux were stove and the flour was lost, and the men barely escaped with their lives; now we were in a miserable situation, not a mouthful of provisions, and by account 70 miles from inhabitants, and we had a wilderness, barren and destitute of any sustenance to go through, where we expected to suffer hunger, cold and fatigue. Here the captain with the ablest men pushed forward, in order to get provisions to send back for the sick.

Nov. 1st. This morning started very early and hungry and little satisfied with our night's rest. Travelled all day very briskly, and at night encamped in a miserable situation. Here we killed a dog and we made a very great feast without either bread or salt, we having been 4 or 5 days without any provisions, and we went to sleep that night, a little better satisfied. Our distress was so great, that dollars were offered for bits of bread, as big as the palm of one's hand.

2d. This morning when we arose, many of us were so weak, that we could hardly stand, and we staggered about like drunken men. However we made shift to get our packs on, and marched off, hoping to see some inhabitants this night. A small stick across the road was sufficient to bring the stoutest to the ground. In the evening we came in sight of the cattle coming up the river side, which were sent by Col. Arnold, who got in two days before. It was the joyfullest sight that ever I beheld, and some could not refrain from crying for joy. We were told by the men, who came with the cattle, that we were yet twenty miles from the nearest inhabitants. Here we killed a creature, and we had some coarse flour served out, straws in it an inch long. Here we made a noble feast and some of the men were so hungry, before the creature was dead, the hide and flesh were on the fire broiling.

3d. Marched this day 20 miles, wading several small rivers, some of them up to our middle and very cold. In the evening came in sight of a house, the first we had seen for 41 days.

4th. Last night had a plenty of beef and potatoes, but little or no bread to be had. Snowed most of the night. In the morning marched down the river to inhabitants thick settled.

5th. Continued our march down the river. The people very hospitable, provisions plenty, but very dear, milk one shilling sterling per quart, and bread a shilling per loaf, weighing no more than 3 pounds. Came this day twelve miles.

6th. Came up with Col. Arnold, and the advance party. Marched off together at 2 o'clock and marched till 12 o'clock at night. Roads excessively bad, most of the way mid leg deep, with mud and water. Marched 17 miles.

7th. Marched three miles, then halted till night, when a lieutenant and 20 men were sent forward, to see if our way was clear. Accordingly they marched till near 2 o'clock in the morning, and when we halted we were in sight of Quebec, the river St. Lawrence between us and the town.

8th. Took up our quarters along the river side, until our troops behind could come up; here we stayed till the 13th. By this time all the men alive were come up, several having perished with hunger in the woods. During our stay here, we took a midshipman, belonging to a frigate in the harbor, who came on shore with some others in a boat to carry away flour from a mill on our side of the river. The river is about one mile or some better wide. At the city one 28 gun frigate and a sloop of war, with some merchant men in the harbor.

13th. Crossed the river at night in long boats and canoes. Some of the canoes over set in the river, but none of the men lost, only some few guns and some clothes. Got all over against morning at a place called Wolf's cove.

14th. This morning were fired upon by the frigate, but received no damage; took up our quarters in some good houses near the town, which were forsaken by the owners. Here we remained till the 20th. During which time we were informed that there were not more than 100 regulars in the city, with a number of sailors and other new recruits, in all not exceeding four hundred under arms. The first day we came over the river, we passed close by the walls of the town, and gave three cheers without being molested by the enemy, who fired a few shots from their cannon, but did no harm.

21st. Marched up the river 20 miles to Point Aux Tremble, our ammunition being almost expended, and too scanty to attack the town with. Here we were joined by Genl. Montgomery with the York forces from Montreal, who had taken St. John's fort, Chambles and Montreal. In these places they took a great quantity of provisions, clothing, ammunition and cannon, with 950 prisoners. Remained here till the 5th December, when we marched back to Quebec, and laid siege to the town. Continued the siege until the 29th, during which time we took several prisoners and cannonaded and bombarded each other both day and night. During these transactions the two men who had been left with Lt. M'Cleland, came to us and informed us that they had buried him at the first inhabitants, after he had been brought down the river by two Indians, hired by Capt. Smith for that purpose.

29th. This night prepared to storm the city in two different places, Gen.

Tolman at first mistook the date. The substance of this entry for Dec. 29th, is therefore repeated under Dec. 30th and 31st. The latter is correct.

Montgomery with the York forces on one quarter and Col. Arnold on the other hand. Accordingly about 5 o'clock in the morning began the attack; they could not get to the wall, but retreated back to their quarters; their General and two leading officers being killed by the fire from the enemy. Col. Arnold with his party carried on the attack in his quarter, and got possession of their two-gun battery, and took 70 prisoners. Our colonel being wounded in the beginning of the attack, was carried back. The captains themselves then took the lead, and drove the enemy until overpowered by numbers, and surrounded, we were obliged to surrender ourselves prisoners of war. During the attack, Capt. Hendrick and Capt. Hubbard, with Capt. Morgan's first Lieutenant were killed.

Sunday, Dec. 30th & 31st. It began to thicken up towards night, and snowed very much. We were ordered to be in readiness, and at 2 o'clock at night, we were mustered, and got all fit for scaling the walls, and marched near to the city, some with ladders, some with axes, and some with saws. Gen. Montgomery with his forces, on the one quarter, and Col. Arnold on the other hand. Gen. Montgomery was to throw three sky rockets into the air for a signal for each party to strike together. Accordingly, about 5 o'clock, in the morning, began the attack; but they could not get to the walls, but retreated back to their quarters, Gen. Montgomery and two leading officers being killed by the fire from the city. There were three or four false flashes made, for a signal to retreat, but Col. Arnold did not receive them, but carried on the attack on his quarter, and got possession of their two gun battery, and took 70 prisoners. Our colonel being wounded in the beginning of the attack, was carried back, and the captains themselves then took the lead, and drove the enemy, until overpowered by numbers and surrounded, we were obliged to surrender ourselves prisoners of war. During the attack Capt. Hendrick and Capt. Hubbard, with Capt. Morgan's first Lieutenant, were killed. Likewise they set St. Roche all on fire. We were all put in the French convent, and there they gave us a gill of rum to drink and hard bread to eat.

The following is a list of the killed, wounded and taken prisoners of the American troops at Quebec, on the 31st December, 1775.

Officers taken prison'rs

Lt. Col Green
Major Meggs
Major Bigelow
Adjt Febezer
Capt. Mathew Duncan

York forces killed.

Genl. Montgomery
Capt. Jacob Cheeseman
Aid-de-camp Mc'Pherson

1st Battalion, 8 killed and one wounded.
3d Battalion, 2 killed

Capt. John Lamb's Company.

Killed.

Solomon Russel
Martin Clark.

Wounded.

Capt. Lamb
Barth Fisher
Thos. Oliver
Ely Gladhill
Barnes Burns

Prisoners.

Lt. Andrew Moody
Capt. Lockhart, vol.
Joseph Ashton, Sergt
Robt. Baird
Robt. Barwick
James Arvin
John Ashfield
Gasper Steyman
Moses Brackit
George Carpenter
Thomas Winter
Jacob Bennit
Joseph Spencer
Thomas Thorp
John Conet
Joseph Dean
Benj. Vanderveert
John Martin
John Fisher

Listed in the King's service.

James Patten
John Poalk

John Wilson
Thomas Dey
William Whitwell
Thos. Morrison
David Stone
John Kelley
John Johnston
John Lucox
Wm. McLieu
John Ritters
Peter Fenton
Shelly Holland
Peter Nestle
David Torrey

Capt. Daniel Morgan's Company.

Killed.

Lt. Humphrey
Wm. Rutlidge
Cornelius Norris
David Wilson
Peter Wolf
John Moore
Matthew Harbinson
Rich[d] Colbert

Wounded.

Benj. Cackley
Solomon Fitzpatrick
Daniel Anderson
*Spencer George**
Daniel Durst
Hezekiah Phillips
Adam Hizkill
John McGuire
*Jesse Wheeler**

Prisoners.

Capt. Morgan
Lt. Wm. Heath 2d
Lt. Bruin 3d
Wm. Fickhis serg't
Charles Porterfield do
John Donaldson do
John Rogers corp
Benj. Grabb do
John Burns
John Conner
Solomon Veal
Jacob Sperry
Adam Kurts
John Shoults
Charles Grim
Peter Locke
John Stephens
David Griffith
John Pearce
Benj. Roderick
Thomas Williams
*Gasper de Hart**
Benj. McIntire
Jeremiah Gordon
Rowland Jacobs
Daniel Davis
Jehu Brown
John Oram
John Maid
John Harbinson
Jedediah Phillips
Jacob Ware
Absalom Brown
Thomas Chapman
Charles Secrests
*Jeremiah Riddle**
William Flood
William Greenway
Rob't Mitchell

Listed in the King's service.

John Cockran
Curtis Bramingham
Timothy Feely
Edw. Seedes
Patrick Dooland
Christopher Dolton
Robt. Churchill

Capt. Wm. Hendrick's Company.

Killed.

Capt. Hendrick
Demis Kelley
John Campbell

Wounded.

John Henderson
John Chesney
Abraham Swaggerty
Philip Baker

Prisoners.

Lt. Francis Nichols
Thomas Gibson
Wm. M'Coy
John Chambers
Robt. Steele
John Blair
Rich[d] M'Cluer
James Reed
John McLin
Henry McGown
Edward Roddin
Daniel North
Mathe[w] Taylor
Daniel Graham
Tho. Anderson
George Morrison
John Ray
Wm Kirkpatrick
Wm Gammel
Henry Crone [Sergt.]
Jacob Mason

Listed in the King's service.

Henry Turpentine
Joseph Greer, Sergt.
Barnabas McGuire
Mathe[w] Cunning
Daniel Carlisle
Richard Lynch
Philip Maxwell
Peter Burns
Thomas Witherup
Thomas Murdock
Francis Furlow
Wm Shannon
Edw[d]. Morton
Roger Casey
Wm Snell
George Morrow
Daniel M'Cleland
James Ireland
Daniel O'Hara
Michael Young
John Hardy
James Greer
Peter Frainer
James Hogge
William Burns
Wm. O'Hara
Alexander Burns
Joseph Caskey
John Cove
Arch'd McFarlin
Thomas Greer
William Smith
Joseph Wright
John Carswell
John Gardner
Thomas Lisbe

Capt. Smith's Comp'y.

Killed.

Alexander Elliot
Henry Miller
Ingrahart Mortworth
James Angles

*The significance of the star affixed to certain of these names is not now known.

Wounded.

Lt. Rich'd Steele
John Miller
Thomas Silborne
Peter Carbough

Prisoners.

Robt. Cunningham
Thomas Boyd sergt.
Sam'l Carbough
Philip Newhouse
Conrad Meyers
Conrad Sheyers
Valentine Willey
John Shafer
Michael Shoaf
Anthony Lebant
John Henry vol.
Edw. Egnew
Patrick Campbell
Joseph Dockerty
Nicholas Nogle
Thomas Gunn

Listed in King's service.

Joseph Snodgrass sergt.
Henry Herrigan corp.
Henry McAnalley
Michael Fitzpatrick
Edward Cavener
Timothy Conner
William Randolph
Robt. Richmond
Alexander McCarter
John Anderson
Hugh Boyd
Thomas Walker
Joseph Higgins
Daniel Crane
Henry Taylor
Thomas Pugh

Capt. Handchitt's Company.

Killed.

Lt. Sam[l] Cooper
Nath[l] Goodrich
Wm. Goodrich
Peter Heady
Spencer Merwick
John Morriss
Theophilus Hide

Wounded.

David Sage

Prisoners.

Capt. Oliver Handchitt
Lt. Abijah Savage
Benj. Catlin, Quart[m]
Peletiah Dewey, serg[t]
Gabril Hodgkiss, do
Gershom Wilcox, do
Roswell Ransom, corp
*Jedediah Dewey, do**
John Risden
Samuel Biggs
Samuel Bliss
Rich[d] Brewer
Sam[l] Burroughs
Nath[l] Coleman
*Stephen Fosbury**
Isaac George
Isaac Knapp
Edw[d] Lawrence
*Joel Loveman**
Elijah Marshall
Daniel Rice
David Sheldon
Ichabod Swaddle
Jonathan Taylor
*Solomon Way**
Noah Whipple
Abner Stocking
Moses White
Simon Winter

Listed in the King's service.

John Basset, Drum[r]
Patrick Newgent

Capt. Topham's Company.

Killed.

Charles King
Caleb Hacker
Hugh Blackburn

Wounded.

Joseph Kennyon
Baker Garlin

Prisoners.

Capt. John Topham
Lt. Joseph Webb
Lt. Edw. Sloukum
Matthew Cogshall, serg[t]
John Finch, do
Reuben Johnson, do
Stephen Tift
Philip Rollins
John Darling
Oliver Dunnel
Wm. Underwood
Wm. Thomas
Isaac Beatey
Charles Sherman
Benj. Trim
Benj. Durphy
Wm. Pitman
Wm. Clark
John Bentley
*Jeremiah Child**
Thomas Price
Samuel Geers
Anthony Salisbury

Listed in the King's service.

Dan[l] Booth, sergt.
Michael Clansey
John Linden
James Green
Patrick Kelley
Tobias Burke

Capt. Thayer's Company.

Killed.

Daniel Davidson
Patrick Tracy

Wounded.

John Rankins
*David Williams**
Peter Field

Prisoners.

Capt. Simon Thayer
Lt. Humphreys
Silas Wheeler
Thomas Law
James Hayden
James Stone
*Silas Hooker**
Jonathan Jacobs
Stephen Mills
Daniel Lawrence
Elijah Fowler
Bannister Waterman
*Jonathan Scott**
Cornelius Hagerty
Benj. West
Jesse Turrell
Samuel Ingolds
*Andrew Henman**

Listed in King's service

Thomas Page, serg[t]
Moses Hemmingway
John Robinson
Wm. Dixon
Wm. Clements

Edw. Conner
Patrick Harrington

Capt. Goodrich's Company.

Killed.

Amos Bridge

Wounded.

Noah Cluff
Nath[l] Lord

Prisoners.

Capt. Wm. Goodrich
Lt. John Cumpton
Ashley Goodrich, serg[t].
Augustus Drake, do
Festus Drake
Daniel Doyle
Jabez Chalker
Benj. Buckman
Samuel Buckman
Paul Doran
John Parrot
John Lee
David Pettes
Caleb Northrup
*Roswell Ballard**
Rowell Foot
Oliver Avery
Elijah Alden
Benj. Pearce
Abner Day
John Taylor
Josiah Root
Rich[d] Shackley

Capt. Ward's Comp'y.

Killed.

Bishop Standley
Thomas Shepherd
John Stephens

Wounded.

Eng[r] James Tisdell
Nath[l] Brown, corp.
Jabez Brooks

Prisoners.

Capt. Samuel Ward
Lt. John Clark
Lt. Sylvanus Shaw
Amos Boynton, serg[t].
John Sleeper, corp.
*Samuel Halbrooks**
John Goodhue
John Shackford
Moses Merrill
Nath[l] Babson
Enoch Foot
Jacob True
Josiah George
Ebenezer Tolman
Thomas Gay
John Stickney
Elijah Dole
*Elijah Hayden**
Jeremiah Greenman
Enos Chillis
Gilbert Caswell
John Gridley
Wm. Dorr
James Rust
Joseph Pool
Israel Barrit
*Bartholomew Foster**
Joseph Ware
Thomas Fisher
*Joseph Osburn**
Listed in King's service.
Charles Harkins

Capt. Hubbard's Company.

Killed.

Capt. Hubbard
Sergt. Weston

Prisoners.

Lt. Sam[l] Brown
Jonathan Ball, serg[t].
*Minath Farmer, Serg[t]**
Luther Fairbanks, do.
Thomas Nichols
Oliver Smith
Simon Fobes
*David Patch**
*Thomas McIntire**
*Benj. Phillips**
*Timothy Rice**
Joseph White
Aaron Heath
Wm. Chamberlain
Anthony Jones
Russel Clark
Paul Clap
Joseph Parsons
Samuel Bates
*Luke Nobles**
Joseph Burr
Oliver Edwards
George Mills
Listed in King's service.
Charles McGuire
Morris Hayward
John Hall

Capt. Dearborn's Company.

Prisoners.

Capt. Henry Dearborn
Lt. Nath'l Hutchins
Lt. Amos Andrews
Lt. Joseph Thomas
John Flanders
Jona. Perkins
Caleb Edes
Jona. Fogge
Wm. Taylor
Wm. Preston
Eben[r] Tuttle
Moses Kimball
Joseph Smith
James Melvin
James Beverley
Jonathan Smith
Samuel Sias
Thomas Holmes
Moses Folnsby
Charles Hilton
John Morgan
Enos Reynolds
Eliphas Reed
Robert Heath
Elkanor Danforth
Nath'l Martin
Jonathan Norris
John Dobbin
John McCalm
Charles Budget
Samuel Hewes
Aaron Serjant

Total killed,	*35*
Wounded,	*33*
Prisoners,	*372*
Total,	*440*

York forces.

Killed,	*13*
Wounded,	*1*
Total killed, wounded and taken,	*454.*[19]

January y^e^ 1st, 1776.

Our allowance of provisions is one pound of bread and a half pound of pork, and one gill of rice for a day, and 6 oz. of butter for a week.

2d.

In prison. This day we had a cask of porter sent to us by some gentlemen of the town.

3d & 4th.

The general sent for a list of our names, of the old countrymen in particular by themselves, that were with us, and they chiefly listed in the king's service.

5th to the 8th.

The prisoners petitioned to have their packs sent in to them, whereupon they sent out a flag, and received them for us.

8th to 15th.

The general sent for a list of the occupations of the prisoners. The small pox is very plenty with us.

15th to 19th.

Capt. Hubbard died with the wound he received a coming in.

19th.

This day I was taken down with the small pox and carried to the hospital and in 15 days was able to return to the prison.

19th to 22d.

Five of those that listed out of prison, and five others deserted the garrison in the night. There were two men put in irons for attempting to break out of prison.

22d to 25th.

There were three vessels and a house burnt by our people. The enemy went into St. Roche after plunder. There were two of our people taken a going to set fire to the shipping.

25th to 29th.

There were eight men deserted the garrison. The people go out into St. Roche every day, and fetch in the remains of the buildings that were burnt.

29th to 31st.

Two men of Capt. Ward's company died with the small pox. The men are getting well, some of them.

February 1st to the 5th

There were 2 men deserted, 7 of our men died with the small pox, and one man died with the pleurisy. He was sick but 4 days.

5th to the 9th.

Three men deserted. Forty men lay sick in prison.

9th to 12th.

Very snowy. The storm very heavy. Three men were stifled to death in the night on duty.

12th to 16th.

This morning 60 men went to the hospital with the small-pox. The men have it very favorably.

16th to 20th.

Six of the old countrymen, that listed out deserted, and the remainder of them put into prison again, because those deserted.

20th to 24th.

Five men died with the small pox. The enemy made an attempt to go out after our people's cannon, and got drove back. There was a continual firing after them.

24th to 31st.

Nothing remarkable.

March 1st to the 6th.

Three men deserted.

6th to 10th.

One of the prisoners was put in irons for talking with one of the sentries. We hear that Boston is taken by our people.

10th to 13th.

There was an alarm in the city at 10 o'clock at night. A large picket was set around the prison, and a field piece before the door.

13th to 18th.

The "emigrants" are moved into the artillery barracks, and the rest of us into a stone goal and are locked up at 7 o'clock at night.

18th to 25th.

Nothing remarkable.

25th to 30th.

In the night one of the prisoners got out of prison and run to our people. We are in a miserable condition, having no wood, we almost freeze.

30th to 31st.

Most of the prisoners consulted together to break out of prison, to try their best to take the town, but as one of the persons was cutting away some ice at the cellar door, in order to have it handy to open at a moment, to go out at, the sentry standing nigh, and hearing the cutting, acquainted

the officers of the guard, who acquainted some other officers, and they coming in, inquired who was cutting at the door, and what they were [about]. On which, one of the prisoners informed them of all the transactions that were going forward. The officers searched all the rooms in the prison, and every man's pack, to see if they could find any arms or ammunition, for they supposed some of the people in the town had supplied us with arms and ammunition; but they could not find any such thing with us. At this we were put all in to strong irons.

April 1st to 14th.

Our people having a battery across the river, at Point Levi, they threw shot into the town very merry. The officers of the guard are very particular with us. They call a roll and count us morning and evening.

14th to 27th.

It is very sickly with us. The scurvy and lameness rage very much, occasioned by living on salt provisions.

27th to 31st.

The town was alarmed in the night.

May the 1st to the 6th.

Nothing strange; but in great distress and despair.

6th.

This morning 3 ships came in with a re-enforcement of about one thousand men. All the bells in the town rang for joy most of the day. Then all the forces in the town marched out on Abraham's Plains to have a battle with our people, but they retreated as fast as possible and left a number of sick in the hospital. Likewise some of their cannon and ammunition with a number of small arms and packs.

7th & 8th.

The general ordered the irons to be taken off the prisoners. The general likewise gave the "Emigrants" their liberty again. This morning two ships came in. The ships have gone up the river, and a number of troops by land, for Montreal.

9th to 14th.

Three ships and three brigs came in. There were six prisoners put in with us, taken strolling about. One company set out for Montreal.

14th to 19th.

Two ships went out. One of them a packet for England.

19th to 23d.

One ship and a number of small craft came in. Thirteen prisoners listed into the king's service. One ship sailed out.

23d.

Our allowance is one pound of soft bread and one pound of beef.

24th to 26th.

The militia have laid down their arms. One of those men that went out of prison was put on board a 50 gun ship; but he did not incline to enter on board, and they put him in irons, and threatened to hang him, but he was taken out of irons and put into prison again in the evening. Robert Beard was taken out of prison and has got his liberty. He is going home by water to Ireland.

26th to 30th.

One ship went out, and twenty came in. There were 8 or 9 prisoners taken out to work; they stayed out 1 or 2 days, and were required to swear allegiance to the king, that they would not take up arms against him, and to make known all experiments against him.

30th & 31st.

Four ships came in; one brig and two ships went out.

June y^e^ 1st to the 5th.

Eighteen ships came in with Gen'l. Burgoyne. There are six thousand Hessians and Hanoverians come to assist the king's troops. Five hundred marched up the river for Montreal.

5th.

This day General Carlton with a number of the officers, came to see us, and enquired of us whether we had fared as well as they promised us we should when we were taken. We told him we fared very well. He said he did not take us as enemies, and likewise said if he could rely upon our honors, he would send us to New England, if we would be quiet and peaceable, and not take up arms any more.

June y^e^ 6th, A. D. 1776.

A copy of an answer sent to Gen'l. Carlton.

May it Please Your Excellency:

We, the prisoners in His Majesty's goals, return your Excellency our most happy and unfeigned thanks for your clemency and goodness to us whilst in imprisonment. Being sensible of your humanity, we give your Excellency thanks for your offer made us yesterday, and having a desire to return to our friends and families again, we promise not to take up arms against His Majesty, but remain peaceable and quiet in our respective places of abode, and we further assure your Excellency that you may depend on our fidelity.

So we remain your Excellency's humble servants.

Signed in behalf of the prisoners.

June 7th to 12th. Thirteen of the prisoners were taken out to go a fishing. Two ships sailed. Gov^r^ Carlton has gone up to Montreal. One regiment has set out for the same place. The French are obliged to send a number out of every parish.

12th to 17th. Two of the prisoners that were out at work, run away.

17th to 21st. A child killed with lightning. Two ships came in.

21st to 25th. Nothing strange.

25th to 30th. The soldiers are cut short of their allowance of bread—half a pound a week; likewise the prisoners the same. A company marched for Montreal. One ship came in.

July 1st to 7th. Five ships came in, and three schooners. Two prisoners were put in with us, that were taken up at Montreal by the Indians.

7th to 14th. Nothing remarkable.

14th to 19th. Col. McLean came from Montreal.

19th to 21st. A ship came in. One of the prisoners, that were taken last, was taken out and confined in close prison in irons for talking saucy to the provost.

21st. This day a number of the prisoners, that went out to work, ran away through the woods. The general has sent after them.

22d. The General has come down from Montreal.

23d to 27th. One ship came in and one went out. One of the prisoners taken crazy.

27th to 29th. One ship sailed. Two officers came into prison, and enquired if there were not some of us, that wanted shirts. They were told, there was a number of us that had none. They told us we should all have shirts, that wanted. They likewise told us, we should be sent home in ten days.

29th to 31st. Our officers have the liberty of the town.

August 1st to 3d. Nothing remarkable.

4th. The General sent for all the prisoners to come in, who were out in the country at work, that were minded to go home.

5th. This day ninety-five prisoners embarked on board the ship.

6th. This day expected to embark, but were disappointed.

7th. This day the men all in good spirits, and embarked on board the ships. Sixty of the prisoners on board the Mermaid.

8th. This day our provisions are pork, peas and hard bread. The wind in our favor, but waiting for orders to sail. At night removed from the Mermaid to the John Christopher.

9th. This day our provision is fresh meat and soft bread. The wind in our favor, but no orders to sail.

10th. Last night a brig came down the river with 28 prisoners. At little Wolf's Cove, the wind blows up the river.

11th. This morning the signal was given for sailing. Weighed anchor and went down about one mile. At night weighed anchor, and went down the river thirteen miles. The weather cold and stormy.

12th. This morning the signal was given. We weighed anchor and beat down the river about 11 miles, and came to an anchor, the wind being strong against us.

13th. This day we lay by wailing for the wind.

14th. This morning weighed anchor with a pleasant gale of wind. Sailed down the river about 15 miles, and came to an anchor. Then hove up, and with a brisk wind, sailed down the river to the Isle Obeeck, 50 leagues from Quebec.

15th. Having a prosperous gale of wind, we made sail. In the afternoon passed by a Frigate, lying in the river, to see if there was no fleet coming up except their own.

16th. This day we had a very brief wind.

17th. The wind breezed up in our favor.

18th. Left Gasey and made St. John's Island.

19th. St. John's Island being eleven leagues long, we sailed by it most of the day. Hove in sight of Cape Breton Island, before we left Saint Johns. Espied a ship in distress, cast away on the end of the island, her foremast, mizzenmast and bowsprit carried away. A barge was sent on board from our convoy, but we have heard no return.

20th. We were detained by beating round the island to get letters ashore to the Governor of the island, concerning the wreck, that was run ashore.

21st. This day, we had a small breeze of wind against us. At night came to an anchor, in order to send a boat ashore with letters to the Governor.

22d. This morning the boat went ashore and returned about sunset. Then hove up with a brisk wind. Sailed all night.

23d. This day went thro' Canso Gut into Chebucto Bay. Left it this night and came in to the open ocean.

24th. It was our misfortune to have the wind ahead, so that we drifted from our course, and made little or no head way this day.

Sunday, 25th. The wind still ahead. Changed our course N. W., and made Cancer Shore that night.

26th. This day the wind got about almost fair, and breezed up a very brisk gale about dark.

27th. The wind held fair and strong till about 2 o'clock this afternoon.

28th. The wind died away and there was a large swell.

29th. This morning the wind quickened up, and the captain of the ship took an observation and found us to be in latitude 42°, which is Boston latitude.

30th. A light breeze, but very fair, and continued so this day.

31st. We were told, by the second mate, that we were abreast of New York, and were afraid to put in for a harbor, for fear our Privateers would give them a basting.

Sunday, Sept. 7st. Were this night informed, that we were south of Pennsylvania.

2d. This day kept our course S. W. until the morning, the wind being yet ahead.

3d. This morning we were almost up with the Virginia Cape. We about ship and run upon the other tack.

4th. About 3 o'clock this morning, blew up a squall and a heavy shower of rain. We were obliged to shorten sail, and stand before it.

5th. Fortune yet frowning in regard to the wind, we look up within two points.

6th. We were informed by the shipmen, according to reckoning, that we were in the latitude of Philadelphia. Latitude 39° North.

Here all that has been preserved of this Journal abruptly ends. The concluding pages many years ago were worn out and lost. See sketch of Ebenezer Tolman.—*Eds.*

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER WRITTEN, ABOUT FIFTY YEARS AGO, TO A FRIEND IN THE WEST, BY MRS. MARY J. (MELVILLE) TOLMAN.

"Dear Julia:—Do you ever indulge in reminiscences of your childhood's days? This is a favorite diversion of mine, and I feel sure that you still love to think of the dear hills of Nelson, and are not among those who have no interest in their native town. It always pains me when I hear one speak lightly of the place that gave him birth. Almost as soon might we expect to see one turn against his mother.

I am sure you can never forget the old Meeting House on the hill, with the smooth "common," which was such a favorite play ground. And how the larger girls used to tell us there was "an *old man* in the Meeting House," till our youthful imaginations were so excited that we really believed we saw him looking upon us from those staring windows. Yet how strange it was, that, though on a *week-day* we could never rid ourselves of this impression so but that our timid feet would quicken their pace whenever we passed the meeting house, still on the *Sabbath* we gladly entered its courts, always feeling that these unsightly beings took their flight by *Saturday night.*

How we used to watch the swallows as they worked so busily making their nests just under the eaves, reminding me of that passage in the Psalms: "The sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself where she may lay her young, even thine altars."

It seems as if I could now see the slight form of good old "Father Newell" as he stepped lightly up those long stairs leading to the high pulpit. His form was indeed slight, but not his voice. Full and loud, it resounded to the farthest corner of the house, so that no child could sleep or read his book. I remember to this day the shudder that used to come over me as I thought "what if that sounding board should fall!"

Then there was the little school house near by, and the long line of horse sheds, where we had so many games, and such fun while "tetering." Who ever heard of "see-saws" in those days?

But still more distinct in my memory are the scenes in the new school house at the foot of the hill. What an army of great boys in those back seats! No wonder that the modest teacher, just from college, turned pale and trembled before them as they rose up against him, while he attempted to enforce the rule that "no gum should be chewed in school." Wasn't that a scene for a painter, the teacher's arm uplifted, with ferule in hand to strike the persistent one, while that army from the rear rose up in defense like a *corps de reserve?* On the other side of the room were the girls, pale, trembling, and some weeping. (Girls are always peacemakers, you know.) Wouldn't the honored Judge[1] and the brave General[2] pronounce this a ludicrous scene, if it could now be photographed just as it then appeared?

Do you remember, too, how much we felt the dignity of advancing years as soon as our mothers consented to our staying out till nine o'clock, and

[1]Hon. Silas Hardy.
[2]Gen. S. S. Griffin.

then followed the little parties which were so gladly anticipated, and which engaged our thoughts far more than our studies for days before each gathering. Then the maple sugar parties, and the singing school, which we must surely attend, without a single evening's failure. One would certainly have thought that the progress of the whole musical world depended upon our fidelity in attending the "singing school."

I often live those pleasant days over again, when I visit dear old Nelson from time to time, and the scenes of the past come rushing back with peculiar freshness. I pity you, my dear friend, that, far away in your western home you can not often expect to enjoy this privilege.

* * * * * * * *

Each year I go to Nelson from the sandy plains where so many are longing for the cool breezes from the hills, and are wishing for some quiet home where for weeks the words dress and fashion may not be heard. Such delightful scenery! With Monadnock towering up from the south, and the unbroken chain of wooded hills far round to the northwest, where Ascutney just lifts her head as if to allow you a slight glimpse of her beauty.

Oh, yes! The everlasting hills remain just as when our young feet trod them."

Mary.

NELSON.

I have visions to-night of a quiet old town,
'Mong the hills of old Cheshire, nestling down.
I see the old Church, and the School-house, close by,
And under their shadow the homes hovering nigh.
The hills, and the valleys, now white with the snow,
But their outline's the same as when, long ago,
Their heights and their depths, were the wide world, to me,
And I knew not other than what I could see,
Between the hills lying eastward that bounded my view,
And those rising westward to meet the bright blue.
Circling round to the north, their outlines grew dim,
While away in the southward Mt. Monadnock rose grim.

But where are the forms, the faces of yore?
We seek them in vain, we see them no more;
They sleep on the hillside that slopes to the west!
Other feet tread the paths their footsteps once pressed
On others has fallen the mantle they wore,
Others are bearing the burdens they bore:
In familiar old homes strange faces are seen,
Strange voices are heard where once they have been,
Or the house is deserted, and time, and decay,
Are doing their work; while far, far away,
In some busier spot other homes they have made,
Long miles from the spot where their kindred are laid.

Scattered and gone, still the old town is the same,
Same in its hills and its valleys, its rocks and its name.
And ofttimes we long to sit in the shade
Of some leafy old tree where in childhood we played;
With the brook at our feet, where our miniature boat
We freighted with pebbles and set it afloat,
As now we are floating out with the tide,
From old homes, and old memories, to the far, farther side;
And when we anchor at last on the shores of the blest,
We would that these world-weary bodies should rest
In the old grave-yard, 'neath the same Mother Earth
That our infant feet pressed, the home of our birth.

ELLEN M. TAGGARD.

NELSON.

A New Hampshire Village.

Near where Monadnock's broad back towers
  In purple mantle shot with blue,
The peaceful village smiles in bowers
  Of leafy elms its founders knew.

'Neath Melville's Hill and Black Top's peaks
  It nestles snug from winter's blasts,
With ribbon lanes that cross its creeks
  And streamlets where the trout swim fast.

The white frame church that tops the slope
  Where slants the sunset's golden rays
Lifts high and clear its spire of hope
  To guide those hearts that bless its days.

Here the pioneers met and prayed
  When all was yet a woodland wild,
Here God his hand of blessing laid,
  And clearings soon in harvests smiled.

Untroubled by the word's dire stress,
  Untrammeled by its chains of rust,
Here fathers delved their homes to bless,
  Here sons fulfilled their father's trust.

In friendship knit with earth's kind heart,
  They trod the ways of God with man:
'Tis man with man in strife doth part
  The ways that God for man doth plan.

This hamlet, once a meeting place
  For farmers near and woodmen far,
Now silent lifts its plaintive face
  To unresponsive moon and star.

Where gleams the sheen of mountain lake,
  On summer even's silvered crest,
I walk the place where pilgrims take
  New heart from those this village blessed.

In this God's acre poplar walled,
  Now sleep the souls who here aspired;
The rest the siren world has called;
  Cold are the hearths their love once fired.

Only in summer's transient days
  By human grace is this place dressed,
When those who tired of cities' ways
  Come here to find sweet nature's rest.

'Tis then that mem'ry's sacred halls
Are filled with scent of pine and balm,
'Tis then its sons the village calls
Its ne'er forgotten music's charm.

Then once again the hills resound,
And parted friends each other seek,
And once again the country round
Renews its life in Old Home Week.

But soon come's Autumn's burning brand
To fire the maples gold and red,
Then flaming hills light up the land
Where only leaves their carpets spread.

When winter lays its shrouding sheet
O'er house and barn and lane and hill,
And blazing logs Thanksgiving greet,
And Christmas chimes its heart's good-will,

The village shuts its wearied lids
And snuggles close 'neath roofs of snow,
Nor wakes again till Spring's sun bids
The robins pipe and freshets flow.

Then with the new year's promise seen
In bud of leaf and greening mead,
It chants the ancient Easter paean
Of life renewed in buried seed.

Dear village, thou my heart hast caught
In web of nature's magic weave;
I ask no higher wisdom's thought
Than here from thee I may receive.

'Tis when I breathe thy ambient airs,
And commune with thy starred sky,
'Tis then my mind high purpose wears,
'Tis then my soul knows God is nigh.

Teach me thy brave contentment's power,
Thy joyous faith in God's sure care,
To bring to fruit my spirit's flower,
And fulfill my being's prayer.

—Temple Scott.

OLD HOME WEEK IN NELSON.

1917.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12.

11 A. M. Service in the Village Church. In Charge of Rev. M. F. Hardy, Pastor.

4 P. M. Commemoration Service, on the site of the Old Church on the Town Common. In Charge of Rev. Dr. E. N. Hardy.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14.

3 and 8 P. M. Meetings of the Nelson School Association, in the Town Hall. Granville Wardwell, Esq., President.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15.

10 A. M. Dedication of a Monument to the Memory of the Pioneer Settlers who had part in the War of the Revolution. On the Old Town Common, now the Cemetery.

12 Noon. Basket Picnic Dinner.

1 P. M. Patriotic Exercises, in Melville Woods. Under the Auspices of the Nelson Picnic Association. Rev. George L. Cady, D.D., President.

Celebration by the Town of

NELSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE,

Of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of its first settlement.

1767-1917

under the auspices of the

NELSON PICNIC ASSOCIATION,

at their Thirty-ninth Annual Gathering,

August 15, 1917.

Ringing of Bells at Sunrise.

Program of Exercises on the

DEDICATION OF A MONUMENT

to the Memory of the Pioneer Settlers who had part in

THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION,

1775-1783.

On the Old Town Common, now the Cemetery,

at 10 o'clock A. M.

Chairman of Reception Committee.....Rev. Dr. E. N. Hardy.

MARSHALS.

Mr. Noah Phillips Hardy, Chief,

Mr. Ralph Gibson,	Mr. Roderick Stebbins, Jr.,
Mr. Ralph Green,	Mr. Francis Struthers,
Mr. John Priest,	Mr. Parke Struthers,
Mr. Rufus Priest,	Mr. Gordon Tolman,

Mr. Everett Wilder.

Color Bearer.....Mr. James Van Brocklin.

COMMITTEE ON DECORATIONS.

Miss Mary Priest, Chairman,

Miss Marion Bassett,	Miss Mabel Osgood,
Miss Ethelyn Guillow,	Miss Charlotte Phillips,
Miss Christine Hardy,	Miss Charlotte Struthers,
Miss Arlene Keough,	Miss Doris Tolman,
Miss Burnice Keough,	Miss Helen Tolman,
Miss Gladys Keough,	Miss Grace Towne,

Miss Eunice Van Brocklin.

Keene City Band.....Mr. L. A. Bemis, Director.

Nelson Cadet Fife and Drum Corps.

Master Morton Bailey, Master Neil Tolman,
Master Francis Tolman, Master Newton Tolman,
Master Rodger Tolman.

Theme—"*The Spirit of '76*".

1. Concert.

Keene City Band.

(*a*) March, "Spirit of '76".....*Brooks.*
(*b*) Overture, "Drummer of the Guard".....*Titl.*
(*c*) Baritone Solo, Air Vare, "Old Kentucky Home".....*Masten.*

Mr. D. H. Marcon.

(*d*) "War Songs of the Boys in Blue".....*Laurendeau.*
(*e*) "Cavalry Charge" .....*Luders.*

2. Decoration of the Graves of Revolutionary Soldiers.

A procession of young people, forming at the Memorial Boulder, headed by the National Colors and the Fife and Drum Corps, will march through the Cemetery, decorating all known graves of Soldiers of the Revolution, and halt in front of the monument.

3. Assembly ..... Bugles.

4. Prayer .....Rev. Elsworth W. Phillips.

5. Welcome .....Rev. George Luther Cady, D.D.
President of the Nelson Picnic Association.

6. "The Old Town Common".....Mr. Henry Melville.

7. "Salute to Flag".....By all the young people.

"I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the Republic for which it stands. One Nation indivisible with Liberty and Justice for all."

8. Unveiling of Tablet.

The bugles will play "Retreat" and the band will follow with the "Star Spangled Banner" during which the flag covering the tablet will be lowered by the following committee:

Master Richard Ewins Master Edward Murdough,
Master Herman Fisher, Master Hubert Priest,
Master Floyd Keough, Master Richard Upton.

9. Dedication.

Miss Elizabeth Griffin:

"With these *Oak Leaves,* symbol of Liberty, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who held Liberty dearer than life."

Miss Emma Brown:

"With these bright *Nasturtiums,* symbol of Patriotism, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those whose lives so nobly exemplified true Patriotism."

Miss Miriam Hardy:

"With these *Poplar Branches,* symbol of Courage, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who with courage in heart and a sword in hand answered their country's call."

Miss Elsie Priest:

"With these *Clusters of Rudbeckia,* symbol of Justice, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who fought and bled that justice might endure."

Miss Edith Osgood:

"With these *Larch Boughs,* symbol of Boldness, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who were bold to battle for their rights, even in the hour of seeming defeat."

Miss Myra Van Brocklin:

"With these *Sprigs of Heliotrope,* symbol of Devotion, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who gave their devotion in fullest measure to country and to home."

Miss Margaret Conrad:

"With these *Branches of Elder,* symbol of Zealousness, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those whose great zeal enabled them to conquer almost overwhelming obstacles."

Miss Ruth Phillips:

"With these *Snow-Drops,* symbol of Hope, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those to whom Hope was a guiding star through peril, toil and privation."

Miss Mildred Hardy:

"With these *Laurel Leaves,* symbol of Ambition, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who in their high ambition laid the foundations of this great Republic."

Miss Florence Cady:

"With these fragrant *Water-Lilies,* symbol of Purity, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those whose purposes were pure, whose ideals were high."

Miss Marguerite Page:

"With these *Willow Branches,* symbol of Freedom, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those to whom we of today owe our precious heritage of freedom."

Miss Mabel Gibson:

"With these *Sprays of Alyssum,* symbol of Worth, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those behind whose plain dress and rough speech were intellects of true worth."

Miss Lois Scott:

"With these *Cedar Boughs,* symbol of Strength, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those who were as strong of heart and as strong of hand as are these granite hills that gave them birth."

Miss Myra Hardy:

"With these *Clover Blossoms,* symbol of Industry, we dedicate this monument to the memory of those whose industry felled the forest, cleared the fields and laid the foundations of our town."

10. Tribute of the Flags.....Mr. Noah Phillips Hardy.

"We decorate their monument with the flag; symbol alike of their purpose and achievement and of our pledge that 'government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth'."

The following school children will mass around and upon the monument the colors carried by them in the procession, viz:—

Ernest Bridge	Helen Brown	Elizabeth Cady
Paul Chase	Gertie Converse	Richard Ewins
Herman Fisher	Herold Flood	Lillian Flood
Malcolm Green	Agnes Guillow	Christine Guillow
Irene Guillow	Maurice Guillow	Margaret Hart
Albert Jackson	Dorothy Keough	Floyd Keough
Mary Keough	Peter Keough	Edward Murdough
Edith Nordstrom	Gustav Nordstrom	Ralph Page
Margaret Phillips	Dorothy Priest	Helen Priest
Hubert Priest	James Priest	Theodore Priest
Cecil Ryerson	Edward Ryerson	Grace Ryerson
Isabel Ryerson	Frederick Smith	Henry Stebbins
Esther Towne	Frances Upton	Katherine Upton
Richard Upton	George Van Brocklin	Susan Van Brocklin
	Leslie Wilber	

11. A Tribute from Ashuelot Chapter,

Daughters of the American Revolution.
By Officers and Delegates.

The drum carried by Mr. John Chapman was in use during the Revolution.

12. A Tribute from Keene Chapter.....Sons of the American Revolution.
By Officers and Delegates.
Hon. Charles Gale Shedd, Speaker.

13. Recessional Hymn—Tune "Auld Lang Syne".....Rev. M. F. Hardy.
Mr. William W. Nye, accompanied by the Band, the entire Assembly joining in the chorus.

"Oh God who winnowed nations wide
A precious seed to gain;
Who lured it o'er the stormy tide,
Through danger, loss and pain.
For blessings large bestowed,
For blessings large,
We lift our song of gratitude,
For blessings large.

We bless Thee for those valiant men,
Of stern and rugged mould;
Whose estimates of life were not
In vanities and gold.
For blessings large bestowed,
For blessings large,
We lift our song of gratitude,
For blessings large.

We bless Thee for their vision clear,
Their love of truth and right;
That in defense of these they dared
To sacrifice and fight.
For blessings large bestowed,
For blessings large,
We lift our song of gratitude,
For blessings large.

Accept our tribute to their worth,
And guard their resting place;
And make us share their heritage,
Of service and of grace.
For all thy grace bestowed,
For all thy grace,
We'll lift our song of gratitude.
For all thy grace."

14. "Taps."

In Melville Woods and such other spots as individuals may choose on account of Old Home or other associations.

NOTE.—For over Seventy years the people of the Town had a basket picnic dinner on the Old Town Common every Sunday during the intermission between the religious services.

AFTERNOON EXERCISES

In Melville Woods, at 1:00 o'clock.

Theme—*"The Spirit of '76" as developed into the Spirit of* 1917.

WAR MESSAGE OF APRIL 2, 1917.

"There are, it may be, many months of fiery trial and sacrifice ahead of us. It is a fearful thing to lead this great and peaceful people into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars. Civilization itself seems to be in the balance, but right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things that we have always carried nearest our hearts, for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own government, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for the universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as will bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world itself at last free. To such a task we can dedicate our lives, our fortunes, everything we are, everything we have, with the pride of those who know the day has come when America is privileged to spend her blood and might for the principles that gave her birth, and the happiness and peace which she has treasured. God helping her, she can do no other."

WOODROW WILSON.

1. Concert.

KEENE CITY BAND.

(*a*) "Our Country" ..... *Linke.*

(*b*) Overture, "The Despatch" ..... *Kela Bela.*

(*c*) Cornet Solo.

MR. L. A. BEMIS.

(*d*) Selection, "Songs from the Old Folks" ..... *Lake.*

(*e*) Description, "Guard Mount" ..... *R. Eilenberg.*

(*f*) Group of Songs—"Tipperary", "Marseillaise", "Dixie", "Star Spangled Banner".

2. Assembly ..... Bugles.

3. Prayer ..... REV. RODERICK STEBBINS.

4. Opening Address ..... REV. GEORGE LUTHER CADY, D.D.
President of the Association.

5. "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" ..... JULIA WARD HOWE.
MR. WILLIAM W. NYE, accompanied by the Band, the entire Assembly joining in the chorus:

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

Chorus.

Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps,
His day is marching on.

Chorus.

His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel;
As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal;
Let the hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel;
Since God is marching on.

Chorus.

Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat,
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment-seat;
Oh! be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant my feet!
Our God is marching on.

Chorus.

Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea;
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free;
While God is marching on.

Chorus.

While God is marching on.

6. Address ..... Hon. Henry W. Keyes,
Governor of New Hampshire.

"The State of New Hampshire—As in 1775 she furnished two-thirds of the patriots on the firing line at Bunker Hill, and in 1776, her delegate, Josiah Bartlett, in the Continental Congress, cast the *first* vote for the Declaration of Independence and signed first after John Hancock, and as in 1777 her yeomen turned back the tide of Invasion at Bennington, so, in the present crisis, she will do all in her power to maintain and make safe the principles of Democracy which the fathers founded."

7. Recitations ..... Miss Freda Scott

(*a*) Wake Up! Wake Up, America! ..... *Temple Scott.*

"Wake up, wake up, America!
Sons of Lexington, wake!
Base kings are wading in passion's mire,
Rank tyrants are big with Hell's desire,
Your honor is at stake.

Wake up, wake up, America!
Rise from your quicksand bed,
Cast aside the cloak of gold's base lie,
Put on the armor of impulse high,
Resolved, by God's love led.

Wake up, wake up, America!
Hark to the thunder sound!
'Tis the cannon's chant of Freedom's song—
Right's pealing anthem against Might's wrong,
From France's sacred ground.

Wake up, wake up, America!
The despot dares his word:
'Dominion or Death', his outlaw cry.
Fling back in his teeth your scorn's reply:
'Death to the Vandal herd!'

Wake up, wake up, America!
Once more embattled stand.
Our captain's message is calling wide;
Sons of our fathers, rise in their pride,
Follow the old command.

Wake up, wake up, America!
So shall the day soon break,
When the flag of peace shall fly the breeze,
O'er every land and the free high seas,
And man his glory make."

(*b*) Fight as Your Grandsires Fought! ..... *Temple Scott.*

"Why are you hiding, you men of the towns?
Why do you skulk in your dens?
Are you content to sell life for mere crowns,
And scratch out your souls with pens?
Shall markers and money dry up your hearts?
Shall Country and Freedom mean nought?
God helps those alone who play their brave parts
And fight as their grandsires fought.

The bugle's clear call resounds through the land,
For free men, true, staunch and brave,
'Tis the call for redemption; stay not your hand,
God's children have souls to save.

Democracy's children in New World and Old,
United shall live by Liberty taught,
And the tale in the days to come shall be told,
Of the fight *their* grandsires fought.

Come from your borders, bold hearts of the States,
Raise Liberty's flag in the dawn.
Come from your hillsides, your marts, and your gates,
For now is a new day born.
Earth is aflame with base passion's desire,
Consuming all souls by tyranny caught:
Be swift to enlist, oh, ye men who aspire
To fight as your grandsires fought.

Black horror 'gainst Belgium has veil'd God's face
In shame, by perfidy made;
The sweet light of life has gone from their place,
And France in ruin is laid.
Oh, sons of the light, dare ye stay at the sight,
Remembering the deeds your forefathers wrought?
Unsheathe the bright sword that of old struck for right,
And fight as your grandsires fought.

Stop not for word of command to arrive,
Free men in honor are born;
Honor commands you for honor to strive,
Holding all dangers in scorn.
Old Glory's your flag, and freedom the prize,
Healing all hearts with God's spirit fraught;
And the light of His truth shall shine in your eyes,
When you fight as your grandsires fought."

8. Address.....Prof. Edwin J. Bartlett,
of Dartmouth College.
"*Education*—for War, during War, and for honorable and lasting Peace."

9. "The Marseillaise".....Mr. William W. Nye.

10. Address.....Dr. Jean Charlemagne Bracq.
"From La Fayette and Washington to Pershing and Joffre."

11. America.....Samuel Francis Smith.

By the Entire Assembly.

"My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
  Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
  Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
  Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break—
  The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
  To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King."

5279Y

The Evening Post Job Printing Office,
156 Fulton St., N. Y.
5279Y

Names and Services

Of those, born or sometime resident in Nelson, New Hampshire, who, as Volunteers, answered the call to arms for the preservation of the Union,—"that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

1861—1865

Together with Program of Exercises on the Dedication of a Tablet, inscribed to their memory, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the close of the war, under the auspices of the

Nelson Picnic Association

at their Thirty-Seventh Annual Gathering

AUGUST 18, 1915

OFFICERS

of the NELSON, N. H., PICNIC ASSOCIATION

1915

PRESIDENT ..... Mr. William Wallace Dunn

VICE-PRESIDENT ..... Dr. Seneca Egbert

SECRETARY ..... Rev. Millard F. Hardy

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Fred M. Murdough

Mr. Wayland P. Tolman

Mr. Frank E. Upton

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. T. W. Barker

Mr. Fred M. Brown

Mr. Albert W. Cram

Mr. William W. Dunn
President of Association

Mrs. Sumner P. Fisher

Mr. Fred A. Fisher

Mrs. Frank P. Gibson

Mr. Charles L. Griffin

Dr. E. N. Hardy

Rev. M. F. Hardy

Miss H. Jennie Holt

Mr. Henry Melville
Chairman of Committee

Mrs. Delia H. Osgood
Secretary of Committee

Miss Edith H. Osgood

Miss Sarah E. Osgood

Miss Susie H. Stevens

Mr. Robert E. Tolman

Mr. Wayland P. Tolman

Mr. Horace O. Upton

Mrs. Frank P. Wilson

SELECTMEN OF NELSON

Mr. Thaddeus W. Barker

Mr. Wilmer C. Tolman

Mr. Fred M. Murdough

DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI

TO THE MEMORY OF

THOSE BORN OR SOMETIME RESIDENT IN NELSON WHO AS VOLUNTEERS ANSWERED THE CALL TO ARMS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE UNION "THAT THIS NATION UNDER GOD SHALL HAVE A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM AND THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH"

1861—1865

THUS THEY ANSWERED — HOPING, FEARING,
SOME IN FAITH AND DOUBTING SOME,
TILL A TRUMPET-VOICE PROCLAIMING,
SAID, "MY CHOSEN PEOPLE COME"
THEN THE DRUM
LO, WAS DUMB
FOR THE GREAT HEART OF THE NATION, THROBBING, ANSWERED,
"LORD, WE COME"

A.A.H.

SYLVESTER C. ABBOTT MILAN W. ATWOOD RUFUS ATWOOD
VARANES C. ATWOOD JOHN B. BAIN MARCUS M. BAILEY
FRANK BAKER C. WASHINGTON BANCROFT JUSTIN D. BARKER
THADDEUS ANGELO BARKER THADDEUS LISCOME BARKER ALFRED B. BARROWS
ANDREW JACKSON BEAL DANIEL O. BEVERSTOCK HENRY J. BISSELL
SILAS L. BLACK ELLIOT J. BLODGETT HENRY L. BLODGETT
SYLVESTER BLODGETT BENJAMIN W. BREED J. NEWTON BREED
SAMUEL OSCAR BROWN THOMAS BURNS ALBERT A. BUXTON
GEORGE W. BUXTON FALLS H. CASTONE ALBERT CRAM
GEORGE W. CUMMINGS JOHN A. CUMMINGS EDWIN L. DAVIS
EDWIN T. DAVIS CALVIN K. DAY JOSEPH K. DAY
GRANVILLE S. DERBY JOHN T. FARWELL MILES FARWELL
JAMES W. FELT SUMNER P. FISHER HENRY C. FLAGG
JEREMIAH FOSTER J. FRANK FOSTER CHARLES F. GIBSON
SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN FRANK B. HARDY GEORGE C. HARDY
ORANGE P. HARRIS PARKER HART HENRY D. HOLMES
CLEMENT S. HOLT EDWARD B. HOLT MARQUIS L. HOLT
CHARLES A. HOWARD GEORGE A. HOWARD EDWIN B. HUNT
SYLVANUS D. KENNISTON MALCOLM C. LETTRIDGE MINOT M. LITTLEFIELD
HARLAN P. KNIGHT SAMUEL C. LOCKE THOMAS N. LITTLE
JOHN C. LANE FRANCIS M. LOVELAND HORATIO MCINTIRE
ROSEA B. MOULTON CHARLES H. NYE ALPHONSO B. OSBORN
CORTES S. OSBORN DANIEL W. OSBORN HENRY B. OSBORN
ABNER W. OSGOOD GEORGE W. OSGOOD JOHN OSGOOD
CLINTON J. PARKER JOSIAH PARKER JUDSON PARKER
LUCIUS PARKER PHINEAS A. PARKER GEORGE S. PETTS
JOSEPH S. PHILLIPS MINOT R. PHILLIPS GEORGE E. PLUMMER
HENRY D. REED EDWIN RICHARDSON JAMES F. RICHARDSON
JOSEPH M. RICHARDSON GEORGE W. ROBBINS HORACE W. ROBBINS
LEONARD B. ROBBINS WILLIAM B. ROBBINS JOSIAH RUFFLE
JAMES W. RUSSELL JAMES H. SCOTT GEORGE C. SCRIPTURE
CHARLES O. SMITH JAMES B. SMITH NATHANIEL SMITH
JOHN STEVENS JOHN STEVENS ALBERT H. TAFT
EDWARD N. TAFT CHARLES A. TABOX JAMES K. P. TAYLOR
FRANK THURSTON ORSON C. TOLMAN GEORGE L. TRAXLER
WILLIAM ORVILLE UPTON HARLAN P. WARDWELL LYMAN P. WARDWELL
OLIN N. WARDWELL GEORGE W. WARREN FRANCIS WELLES
SAMUEL B. WESTON EDWARD H. WETHERBEE VIRGIL I. WHEELER
AUGUSTUS C. WHITE GILMAN E. WHITE GEORGE T. WHITNEY
LEONARD F. WHITNEY ARA M. WILSON EDWARD E. WILSON
OWEN A. WILSON CHARLES H. WORTH AMOS A. WYMAN
MANLY R. YARDLEY

O BEAUTIFUL MY COUNTRY! OURS ONCE MORE!
WHAT WORDS DIVINE OF LOVER OR OF POET
COULD TELL OUR LOVE AND MAKE THEE KNOW IT
AMONG THE NATIONS BRIGHT BEYOND COMPARE
WHAT WERE OUR LIVES WITHOUT THEE
WHAT ALL OUR LIVES TO SAVE THEE?
WE RECK NOT WHAT WE GAVE THEE
WE WILL NOT DARE TO DOUBT THEE,
BUT ASK WHATEVER ELSE AND WE WILL DARE!
LOWELL

INSCRIBED AUGUST 1915

Soldiers and saviours of the homes we love;
Heroes and patriots who marched away,
And who marched back, and who marched on above,—
All—all are here today!

* * *

Even as a fateful tempest sudden loosed
Upon our senses, so our thoughts are blown
Back where The Soldier battled, nor refused
A grave all nameless in a clime unknown,—
The Soldier—though, perchance, worn, old, and gray;
The Soldier—though, perchance, the merest lad,—
The Soldier—though he gave his life away,
Hearing the shout of "Victory," was glad;

* * *

The Soldier of our plaudits, flowers and tears,—
O this memorial of bronze and stone,
His love shall outlast this a thousand years!

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

'Tis Life, not Death, we celebrate.
To Life, not Death, we dedicate
This storied bronze.

THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH

NELSON'S PLEDGE.

From the *New Hampshire Sentinel* for May 2, 1861.

NELSON.

At a few hours' notice a large number of the legal voters and Union loving citizens of Nelson (without respect to party differences), met in the Town Hall of said town on Tuesday, April 23rd, at 5 o'clock P. M. and organized by choosing Gilman Griffin, President, and Charles H. Whitney, Secretary, and, on motion, a committee consisting of George G. Hardy, Lewis J. Colony and Frederick Taylor, were chosen to prepare resolutions for the consideration of the meeting, who made the following report; which, after due consideration and discussion, was unanimously adopted:

Whereas a part of the states of the Union have joined in an insurrection and intend to overthrow our present Government, and either to take or destroy our national capitol; in view of these difficulties, and in protection of our Government property and to sustain the honor of our policy, be it:

Resolved, that, in the present exigency of our country's history, it is proper that we set aside all past political differences and feeling and unite as one man to sustain the Constitution, the Executive authorities, and enforce the laws of the land.

Resolved, that, as New Hampshire has responded to the call of the Executive in the enrollment of one regiment of Militia to be called into immediate service, we, the people of Nelson, stand ready to furnish our full quota of troops to such further call as may be made upon us by the Executive.

Resolved, that, we pledge ourselves to render such support to the families of those persons so called into service as shall be necessary and proper for their support.

Resolved, that, we now pledge ourselves to pay to those who may enroll themselves in such organization the sum of $1.75 for every day spent in active Military Drill, and will furnish to those who may be called to actual service, all needful things for their outfit and departure.

L. J. Colony, F. Taylor and G. G. Hardy were chosen a committee to see that every soldier before he goes into actual service is furnished with needful outfit.

Voted that these resolutions and proceedings of this meeting be presented to the *New Hampshire Sentinel* and *Cheshire Republican* for publication.

GILMAN GRIFFIN, Pres.
CHAS. H. WHITNEY, Sec'y.

NELSON, Apr. 24, 1861.

NAMES AND SERVICES

of those born or sometime resident in Nelson, New Hampshire, who, as Volunteers, answered the call to arms for the preservation of the Union.

1861—1865

SYLVESTER C. ABBOTT

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted November 10, 1861; mustered in November 28, 1861; died of disease February 3, 1862, at Hatteras Inlet, N. C. Born in Nelson.

MILAN W. ATWOOD

Eighteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company F; mustered in September 27, 1864; appointed Corporal; mustered out June 10, 1865; died of disease in hospital at Georgetown, D. C., June 15, 1865. Born in Nelson.

RUFUS ATWOOD

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company A; enlisted May 22, 1861; mustered in May 31, 1861, as Corporal; promoted Sergeant; died in service of disease January 23, 1864. Previously enlisted in State Service April 25, 1861, intending to join First Regiment for 90 days, but was never mustered in. Born in Nelson.

VARANES C. ATWOOD

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 6, 1862; mustered in August 13, 1862; appointed Corporal; discharged for disability October 30, 1862. Born in Nelson.

JOHN BAHAN

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 12, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; transferred to Company B, Veteran Reserve Corps, January 10, 1865; mustered out July 29, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

MARCUS M. BAILEY

Lafayette, New Hampshire, Artillery; mustered in August 1, 1864, as musician; mustered out September 23, 1864. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

On the 1st of August, 1864, in pursuance of instructions from Major-General John A. Dix, Commanding the Department of the East, dated June 30, 1864, this organization, forming part of the State Militia, was mustered into the service of the United States for the period of 90 days, and sent to Fort Constitution. On the 23d day of September, 1864, it was mustered out of the United States Service. Each member was a Volunteer regularly enlisted.

FRANK BAKER

Forty-ninth New York Infantry, Company H; enlisted at Lockport, N. Y., August 15, 1861; mustered in as Corporal August 31, 1861; promoted Sergeant March 30, 1863; captured in action October 10, 1863, at Cedar Mountain, Va.; imprisoned at Libby Prison, Richmond, Va., and afterwards at Salisbury, N. C., where he nearly died of starvation, and was reduced in weight to less than one hundred pounds; paroled March 21, 1864; mustered out October 10, 1864, at Buffalo, N. Y. Born in Nelson.

Baker was a man of unusual physical vigor, and at the breaking out of the war was in Canada working for the Hudson Bay Company. When he heard of it he made his way back to the most convenient point of the United States, which accounted for his enlistment at Lockport.

After his capture, when put with other prisoners in a freight car for transportation to Richmond, he jumped off, escaped and was in the "bush" two weeks before he was captured again by a patrol. The next night, as they camped, he broke away again, but, owing to his enfeebled condition, did not succeed in long evading pursuit. For this reason his confinement was unusually rigorous.

When finally paroled he was sent, with thousands of others, to Annapolis, Md., where his friend and schoolmate in Nelson, John Osgood, ran across him in April, 1864. Though before they met, Baker had been bathed, clothed and as he expressed it, "fattened up" for two weeks, Osgood says that he was still the worst looking human being he ever saw alive. How he looked on his arrival may be judged from a statement of Robert R. Corson, State Agent, published in the Report of the Adjutant-General of Maine, 1864-65, at page 97, in part as follows: "Although long accustomed to the terrible scenes which are the necessary results of terrible battles; familiar as I am with the ghastly spectacles which cover every field of conflict; acquainted with human suffering in a thousand dreadful forms, I confess that I was not prepared for the terrible sight which I witnessed on the wharves and hospitals of Annapolis. Here, day after day, these floating charnel-houses poured forth their contents. Men emaciated, hunger stricken, worn away to skeletons by disease and starvation, trooped out from the ships in vast numbers until the heart sickened at the fearful scene of human misery here presented. No pen can depict the awfulness of the scene, much less overdraw it. Here were human beings, men made in God's own image, so worn out and wasted by disease and want that they were unable to move their limbs; covered with filth, their bodies alive with vermin; with gaping wounds that had never been cleansed or dressed, filled with maggots; fairly eaten up alive, sometimes with these

festering sores covering the whole of one limb; with pallid, sunken cheeks, the skin drawn tightly over the bones * * * maimed, distorted, half rotten, unable to speak, or mumbling inarticulate words of senseless import * * * After landing they died by scores. To many it was but a blessed relief from intolerable agony, from misery that no tongue can ever tell. I have seen from 40 to 50 bodies in the dead house at one time, and on another occasion I attended the funeral of 43 who had died in two days. At another time 65 were buried at once," etc., etc.

G. WASHINGTON BANCROFT

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted October 9, 1862; mustered in November 3, 1862; died in the service of disease at Vicksburg, Miss., August 9, 1863. Born in Nelson. See also under Charles A. Tarbox.

JUSTIN D. BARKER

Fifth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company I; mustered in September 16, 1862; discharged on expiration of term of service, July 2, 1863. Born in Nelson.

THADDEUS ANGELO BARKER

Twenty-sixth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company I; mustered in as musician September 30, 1861; re-enlisted January 5, 1864; wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness; discharged for disability January 17, 1865. Born in Nelson.

His wound was a severe one, shattering his right hand, and he was ordered to the amputation table. He, however, did not go, but lay beside a brook, keeping his hand in the water all night and finally retained it, but it was never of much use, and later he was pensioned on the same basis as if he had lost it.

THADDEUS LISCOMB BARKER

Thirty-sixth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry; mustered in as Captain of Company —, August 19, 1862; promoted Major May 6, 1864; promoted Lieutenant-Colonel October 12, 1864; promoted Colonel November 13, 1864; mustered out June 8, 1865. Born in Nelson.

ALFRED E. BARROWS

Eighteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted January 27, 1865; mustered out July 29, 1865. A resident of Nelson after the war.

ANDREW JACKSON BEAL

Ninth Regiment Vermont Infantry, Company D; enlisted June 18, 1862; mustered in July 9, 1862; captured by the enemy at Harpers Ferry, Va., September 15, 1862; appointed Corporal January 23, 1865; mustered out June 13, 1865.

He ran away from his home in Harrisville and enlisted when under military age. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

DANIEL O. BEVERSTOCK

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted September 13, 1862; mustered in October 25, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863; re-enlisted as Sergeant in Company F, Eighteenth New Hampshire Infantry, September 27, 1864; mustered out June 10, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson. See also under Charles A. Tarbox.

HENRY J. BISSELL (enlisted as Knowlton).

Eighteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company F; mustered in September 27, 1864; mustered out June 10, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

SILAS L. BLACK

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company A; enlisted September 6, 1861; mustered in September 17, 1861; died of disease at Budds Ferry, Md., December 20, 1861. Born in Nelson. See Charles A. Howard.

ELLIOT J. BLODGETT

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted October 21, 1861; mustered in November 28, 1861; wounded May 6, 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness, Va.; died of wounds May 30, 1864, at Washington, D. C. Enlisted from Nelson.

HENRY L. BLODGETT

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted November 9, 1861; mustered in November 28, 1861; mustered out November 28, 1864. Enlisted from Nelson.

SYLVESTER BLODGETT

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 30, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; discharged for disability September 16, 1863. Born in Nelson.

BENJAMIN W. BREED

First Regiment New England Cavalry, Company I; enlisted November 4, 1861; mustered in December 17, 1861; wounded severely May 30, 1862, at Front Royal, Va.; discharged for disability November 3, 1862, at Alexandria, Va. Enlisted in Sixteenth Company, Second Battalion, Veteran Reserve Corps; mustered in December 11, 1863; discharged for disability August 14, 1865, at Washington, D. C. Born in Nelson.

JOHN NEWTON BREED

Fifth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company K; enlisted April 19, 1861; mustered in as musician May 1, 1861; mustered out July 31, 1861; re-enlisted in the Thirty-second Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company I, July 17, 1862; mustered in as Sergeant August 11, 1862; re-enlisted in same company

and regiment January 5, 1864; mustered out as musician June 29, 1865. Born in Nelson.

A brother of Benjamin W. Breed; maternal uncle of Edward B. and Marquis L. Holt.

SAMUEL OSCAR BROWN

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 5, 1862; mustered in August 13, 1862; mustered out June 10, 1865. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

He was one of the original members of the regiment and his service covered its entire period of enlistment. He was present during most of the campaigns, but is said to have been sick in Mississippi, and in the summer of 1864 to have been absent for a time in hospital and on furlough; the exact dates, however, have not been ascertained.

THOMAS BURNS

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted and mustered in December 8, 1863; mustered out July 8, 1865. A resident of Nelson after the war.

ALBERT A. BUXTON

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted November 11, 1862; mustered in November 13, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863. Born in Nelson.

GEORGE W. BUXTON

Second Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company A; mustered in May 25, 1861; appointed Corporal; killed at Cedar Mountain, Va., August 9, 1862. Born in Nelson.

FALIS H. CASTONE

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted November 18, 1861; mustered in November 28, 1861; mustered out November 27, 1864. Enlisted from Nelson.

He is thus described by his friend Olin N. Wardwell: "This little soldier Castone was something remarkable. He was born in Patagonia, his father being a Spaniard and his mother a native Patagonian. He was the color of a mulatto, weighed 140 lbs. and was very short. He stated that he was taken from Patagonia to Maine by a sea captain when he thought himself to be about seven or eight years old, and in wandering about this country he finally reached Marlboro and Nelson. He was the quickest motioned human being I ever knew. I used to think he could discount chain lightning. He was not very strong, but could knock men down as fast as they came to him till he had them in a pile. He was conscientious, true hearted, loyal and religious. I went to Keene with him when he enlisted, and we had to go to the old fairground, two miles west of the square, where the Sixth was in camp, and Simon G. Griffin was drilling the volunteers with from two to six inches of snow for a carpet. His was a fine voice and figure!"

ALBERT CRAM

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted September 1, 1862; mustered in October 23, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863; re-enlisted in Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; mustered in July 1, 1864; transferred to Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I, June 1, 1865; mustered out July 17, 1865. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

He joined the Ninth Regiment before Petersburg in July, 1864, soon after the siege began. The next nine months were practically a continuous battle. As a regular thing every alternate two days were spent in the trenches exposed to constant picket firing, and the other two in a camp so near as to receive almost daily a greater or less number of missiles which in the aggregate inflicted heavy losses. He is reported to have done practically continuous duty, and to have taken part in the battles of the "Mine," Welden Railroad, Poplar Spring Church and Hatchers Run, and several arduous marches.

For account of the battle of the "Mine" see William B. Robbins.

GEORGE W. CUMMINGS

First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry, Company G; enlisted August 9, 1864; mustered in August 9, 1864; appointed First Sergeant; commissioned Second Lieutenant June 10, 1865; mustered out July 15, 1865. Born in Nelson.

JOHN A. CUMMINGS

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted September 23, 1861; appointed First Lieutenant November 30, 1861; appointed Captain April 23, 1862; appointed Major First New Hampshire Cavalry March 19, 1864; mustered in July 19, 1864; mustered out July 15, 1865. A resident of Nelson before the war.

EDWIN L. DAVIS

Thirteenth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company D; mustered in July 16, 1861; appointed Corporal; transferred to Sixth Regiment Veteran Reserve Corps. Born in Nelson.

EDWIN T. DAVIS

Eighteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company F; enlisted September 27, 1861; mustered in September 27, 1864; mustered out June 10, 1865. Born in Nelson.

CALVIN K. DAY

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 27, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; appointed Corporal October 6, 1862; mustered out July 8, 1865. Born in Nelson.

JOSEPH N. DAY

Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, Company H; enlisted January 1, 1864; mustered in January 4, 1864; transferred June 4, 1864, to Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry, Company G; mustered out July 25, 1865. A resident of Nelson before the war for many years.

He took part in the various engagements of Hunter's raid in the Shenandoah Valley in the Spring of 1864, including the battles of Piedmont and Lynchburg, and later, under Sheridan, in the battle of Winchester, September 19, 1864, the first of the brilliant series of victories that drove the rebels from the valley. In the battle last named he was severely wounded, which later caused him to be placed on the rolls of the Veteran Reserve Corps.

GRANVILLE S. DERBY

Sixteenth Regiment Vermont Infantry, Company K; enlisted August 21, 1862; in Battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 2, 3, 1863, and took part in final charge that drove the enemy from the field; honorably discharged August 10, 1863. Born in Nelson.

Gettysburg was not only the greatest battle of the war, but it marked the high tide of the Rebellion. It was Derby's privilege to assist in the turning of the tide. On July 3d the confederates, under Pickett, charged in mass against the Union centre. The lines met in hand to hand fighting, and for a time there was great doubt which would prevail. Just at the left of the portion of the Union line which was engaged were stationed the Thirteenth and Sixteenth Vermont regiments, part of Stannard's brigade. At the critical moment they changed front, swung around and attacked the enemy in flank and rear. This was just enough to turn the scale. In "Vermont in the Civil War," by G. G. Benedict, at page 469, what followed is thus described: "The advance of the Sixteenth, after its change of front, took it across the line of march of part of Pickett's division and over ground covered with confederate dead and wounded, but the men had eyes only for what was before them. Soon they opened a savage fire. The front of the two regiments was hardly a dozen rods from the enemy's flank, and they advanced while firing so that the distance was considerably lessened. At this short range the Thirteenth fired 10 or 12 rounds, and the Sixteenth perhaps half that number, into a mass of men on which every bullet took effect, and many doubtless found two or three victims. The effect upon the confederate mass was instantaneous. Its progress ceased. For a few moments the gray lines crowded together, falling meanwhile like wheat before the reaper; then, breaking in a disorderly mob, they fled in all directions. On their right and center the larger portion dropped their arms and rushed within our lines as prisoners. Their dead and wounded and small arms by thousands strewed the ground over which they charged."

JOHN T. FARWELL

Fourteenth New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 21, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; mustered out July 8, 1865. A resident of Nelson both before and after the war.

With his regiment he did picket and provost guard duty about the defenses of Washington for about a year and a half, and then, in March, 1864, went to Louisiana, where he was stationed at various places along the Mississippi, among others at Carrollton, Camp Parapet, Jefferson City, Pass Manchac and Morganzia. In July he returned to Virginia, and after several minor engagements marched with Sheridan's Army into the Shenandoah Valley and took part in three memorable battles, viz.: Opequam (Winchester), September 19; Fisher's Hill, September 22, and Cedar Creek, October 19. In January, 1865, the regiment went to Savannah, Georgia, arriving just as Sherman's Army left, and he remained in that vicinity until discharged.

MILES FARWELL

Sixty-first Regiment Massachusetts Infantry; appointed Quartermaster September 22, 1864; mustered in September 24, 1864; transferred to Company D as First Lieutenant and afterwards to Company E; mustered out June 4, 1865. Born in Nelson.

JAMES W. FELT

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company A; enlisted September 6, 1861; mustered in September 17, 1861; appointed Corporal December 1, 1863; re-enlisted January 1, 1864; appointed First Lieutenant Company G May 20, 1865; mustered out December 19, 1865. A resident of Nelson before the war.

He took part in every engagement in which his company was concerned, and was never wounded nor seriously ill.

SUMNER P. FISHER

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted September 2, 1861; mustered in September 9, 1861; captured in Peninsula campaign and for about six weeks a prisoner at Belle Isle; severely wounded in the leg June 3, 1864, at Battle of Cold Harbor; mustered out September 9, 1864; was still on crutches at the time of his discharge. Previous to the foregoing U. S. Service he volunteered in State Service April 27, 1861, and was discharged by order of the Governor June 10, 1861. Born in Nelson. See Charles A. Howard.

HENRY C. FLAGG

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted December 6, 1861; mustered in December 7, 1861; wounded and taken prisoner at Second Bull Run, Virginia, August 29, 1862; on release honorably discharged at Washington, D. C., December 23, 1862. Enlisted from Nelson.

JEREMIAH FOSTER

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted September 12, 1862; mustered in October 24, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

He was the father of J. Frank Foster and one of the most ardent patriots in town. Though over military age, with a son already in the service, he enlisted as an example to the younger men. See Charles A. Tarbox.

JEREMIAH F. FOSTER (known as J. Frank Foster).

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted August 11, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; taken prisoner at Poplar Spring Church September 30, 1864; paroled October 7, 1864; mustered out May 30, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

A son of Jeremiah Foster. He was in the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, The Mine, Welden Railroad and Popular Grove Church. In the last he was captured and thus describes the event in the History of his Regiment, page 626:

"We all remember that beautiful day, September 30th, 1864, the day we undertook to capture the Welden Railroad. We charged the rebel works and were driven back. As we were falling back Sergeant Partridge, of Company I, was wounded, and as I was near by I took hold of him to give him a lift and while doing this was stopped by an officer who was trying to rally the men. During this time the rebels were advancing and the bullets were flying nearer than was comfortable. I covered myself the best I could in an angle of a fence, but before I was aware of it the rebels were upon us and I was captured with a lot of others. Their first salutation was: 'Give me your pocketbook, you Yankee ——!' Another rebel took my new hat and put his old one, which was alive with vermin, on my head. But the rebels soon fell back with their prisoners, for they were glad to get away from our bullets. In passing the buildings on the Pegram farm a comrade named Edson, who had been wounded, called to me and I left the lines to speak to him. This incident undoubtedly saved my life, as I remained with the wounded until the next Sunday when they took us in ambulances and carried us through Petersburg, across the river to a hospital. All this time nothing had been done for the wounded except what I did. A number of the men died and were immediately stripped of their clothing and the rebels put it on. Next day they took us on flat cars to Richmond, and as we crossed the James river we could look down upon Belle Isle and see the prisoners there. We then expected to join them, but on arriving in Richmond those who could not walk were taken in ambulances and carried to a hospital and the rest of us walked. Those of us not wounded were detailed as nurses. On October 8th some of us were exchanged. We steamed down the river by Fort Darling and the poor starved comrades felt as though new life was put into them; but some of these skeletons never reached home alive." See William B. Robbins.

CHARLES F. GIBSON

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company K; enlisted October 19, 1861; mustered in November 28, 1861; wounded at Fredericksburg, Virginia, December 13, 1862; transferred to 149th Company Invalid Corps January 26, 1864; honorably discharged January 16, 1865. Born in Nelson.

His comrades say that Gibson had as much "sand" as any one in the regiment, though he was about the smallest in stature. Owing to the shortness of his legs and the fact that he was troubled with asthma, he sometimes had difficulty in keeping pace with the others, and at Fredericksburg this led to an interesting experience. On that terrible thirteenth of December, 1862, when Burnside crossed the river and lost nearly thirteen thousand men trying in vain to capture the entrenched heights, the Sixth took a gallant part and went as far as any one. As it climbed the hill, swept by musket fire and with massed artillery sending shells plunging through the ranks, men were falling right and left, and among others Gibson was seen to drop. Those near him thought he was hit and that that was the last they would ever see of him. The others pressed on and went almost to the top, till flesh and blood could stand it no longer and they had to fall on their faces. A while afterwards who should arrive but Gibson, walking along quite leisurely. Instead of being shot he had simply tarried behind until he could recover his wind. "Well, you see I'm here," he casually remarked and, instead of joining his friends on the ground, stood up all alone, coolly loading and firing. In response to a shout "For God's sake get down, you'll be killed!" he said, "I've got to die sometime," and kept on. As half-faced to the rear he was talking and at the same time ramming down another charge, a bullet clipped off a portion of his nose and upper lip. The peculiar thing about it was that the bullet did not come from the enemy, but from a green regiment being brought up behind in support, which had let off a nervous volley. Gibson at all times was gifted in his vocabulary, but then he outdid even himself, and the historic army that swore so terribly in Flanders could have given him no points. There was some doubt whether his indignation was greater at those behind or at those beside him who laughed at his predicament. He finished loading and threatened to fire at his assailants. This was unnecessary as at about that time they broke and ran. His comrades pulled him down and he gradually cooled off. The regiment remained where it was till dark, and the next day protected the retirement of the army and was one of the last to recross the river to its former camp. Gibson stuck by till the end.

SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN

Captain, Second New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; Colonel, Sixth New Hampshire Infantry; Brigadier General; Major General by Brevet; at the close of the war, Commander of the Second Division of the Ninth Army Corps.

He was born and brought up in Nelson,—where his parents resided during the war,—and taught school there, having among his pupils a number of Nelson boys, who subsequently distinguished themselves as soldiers.

On the first call of President Lincoln for seventy-five thousand three months' men he volunteered as private in a company being formed in Concord, N. H., and, on its organization, was chosen Captain. Finding that the quota of New Hampshire under this call was full he, with a large number of his men, volunteered for three years under the second call, and they were mustered in as Company B of the Second Regiment, New Hampshire Infantry, June 4, 1861. The Company was known as the "Goodwin Rifles," and, by the exertions of Griffin and his friends, was armed with Sharpe rifles,

the only company sent from the State with breech loaders. At the first battle of Bull Run he commanded the company, and handled it with remarkable coolness and bravery, although it was under a heavy fire and lost twelve men, killed and wounded. After this battle he was sent by General Joseph Hooker back to New Hampshire to try to persuade the authorities to arm an entire regiment with Sharpe's rifles, but was unsuccessful on account of the great expense involved. October 26, 1861, he was promoted to be Lieutenant Colonel of the Sixth New Hampshire Infantry, and soon after took command of the regiment, its Colonel having resigned. He was appointed Colonel April 22, 1862.

At Antietam, September 17, 1862, he led his regiment and the Second Maryland in a desperate charge on the Stone Bridge, for which General Burnside, on several public occasions, gave him high commendation. At Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862, he again attracted special attention, and on May 20, 1863, was placed in permanent command of the First Brigade, Second Division, of the Ninth Army Corps, and never after returned to his regiment. His brigade, consisting of the Sixth and Ninth New Hampshire, Second Maryland, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania and the Seventh and Twelfth Rhode Island, operated with General Sherman in the defence of the rear of Grant's army before Vicksburg in June, 1863, and was in the advance line which entered Jackson the following month.

On the morning of July 13th, while he was temporarily in command of the whole Ninth Corps of three brigades, the enemy made a sudden and furious attack, which was repulsed with great slaughter.

August 7, 1863, Major General John G. Parke, commanding the Ninth Corps, wrote General Grant recommending Griffin's promotion "for soldierly qualities and gallant conduct whenever he has met the enemy."

September 10, 1863, at Lexington, Ky., he was in command of the Second Division of the Ninth Corps, and a little later was placed at the head of Camp Nelson, Ky., one of the largest and most important depots of supplies in the country, with about nine thousand men under him.

In the Spring of 1864, when the army was reorganized, in preparation for the last great campaign against Richmond, he was given the Second Brigade, Second Division of the Ninth Corps. The returns of May 5, 1864, show that his brigade then included the Second Maryland, the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Maine, the Sixth, Ninth and Eleventh New Hampshire and the Seventeenth Vermont.

Thus far, despite his great responsibilities and the large bodies of troops he commanded, and repeated recommendations for his promotion, his rank had remained Colonel.

His brigade was on the right of the Ninth Corps and on the left of Hancock in the battle of Spottsylvania, May 8-20, 1864, and did some of the hardest fighting in its whole experience, particularly on May 12th, at the "Bloody Angle", when it saved the day. Griffin handled it superbly, executing the most brilliant movement of the engagement.

Woodbury, in his History of the Ninth Corps, page 384, in speaking of the crisis of the battle, says: "Colonel Griffin's position enabled him to be of effectual service, and the enemy was handsomely met and Hancock was

saved. So prominent had been the gallantry of the Brigade Commander upon this and former occasions that General Burnside recommended him for instant promotion." General Grant earnestly concurred. The United States Senate gave him the unusual distinction of confirming his nomination, without reference, by unanimous vote, and his commission bore date of May 12th.

On the night of June 16, 1864, in command of his own and General Curtin's brigades, he attacked the enemies' entrenchments in front of Petersburg, broke through and captured over a thousand prisoners with arms, artillery and ammunition. With proper support he would have gone clear through to Richmond.

At the assault after the explosion of the "Mine," July 30, 1864, according to the official reports, he went with a portion of his brigade far in advance of all other troops, almost to the top of Cemetery Hill, and exhibited personal valor of the most conspicuous character.

In October, 1864, the Fifty-sixth Massachusetts, the One Hundred and Seventy-ninth and One Hundred and Eighty-sixth New York, and the Second New York Mounted Rifles were added to his command.

April 2, 1865, he arranged and led the final assault in front of Fort "Hell" (Sedgewick), and, when his immediate superior, General Potter, was wounded early in the action, took command of the division and held it until the end of the war.

For gallantry in this last affair he was breveted Major General.

In "New Hampshire in the Great Rebellion," by Major F. R. Waite, it is said of him: "His service was constantly at the front and never, during the whole war, did the troops of his command make a march or come under fire in a single instance that he was not present to command them in person." He took an active part in twenty-two great battles, besides being under fire numberless other times in skirmishes and smaller fights. Seven balls passed through his clothes; two horses were killed and five others wounded under him. At Antietam one-fifth of the men in his command were killed or wounded; at Fredericksburg one-third, and at the Second Battle of Bull Run one-half. In Grant's severe campaign in 1864 he left Alexandria with six regiments, reporting twenty-seven hundred fighting men. At the close of the campaign he had lost three thousand men, killed and wounded, three hundred more than his whole original number, new regiments having been assigned to him until he had eleven in his brigade, while the old ones had been kept up by recruits. His leadership was always gallant and intelligent, and frequently brilliant to a high degree. Every promotion was won on the field of battle. He reached the highest rank of any soldier that went from New Hampshire.

See John Osgood, both John Stevens and William B. Robbins.

FRANK B. HARDY

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted October 9, 1862; mustered in as Corporal October 24, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863. Also, on December 16, 1864, paid $300 to secure the enlistment, in Nelson's quota, of John McCarty, from Ireland. Born in Nelson. A brother of George G. Hardy. See Charles A. Tarbox.

GEORGE G. HARDY

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted October 9, 1862; mustered in October 24, 1862; died in service of disease at New Orleans, La., June 21, 1863. Born in Nelson. See Charles A. Tarbox.

One day in April, 1861, when the stage from Wilton arrived in Nelson bringing the mail, a little daughter of George Hardy carried home a newspaper and, as her father and young Edwin P. Hunt, who lived with him, were at their work, she read to them the headlines announcing the attack on Sumter. Hardy turned to Hunt and gravely remarked, "One of us will have to go". A few days later, when the call came for 75,000 volunteers, Hunt claimed the privilege of youth and was the first one to enlist from Nelson.

Eighteen months passed. Call had succeeded call. The young men, full of enthusiasm, had marched away, and news had come that Abbott, Black, Buxton, Stevens, Edward N. Taft, Warren, Wheeler and White were dead; that Flagg, Edwin Richardson, Leonard E. Robbins, Worth and George W. Osgood lay in hospitals suffering from grievous wounds; that more than a score of others were prostrated by disease, and that the Sixth Regiment, which on Christmas Day, 1861, had left Keene a thousand strong, now had but a little over one hundred men fit for duty. Not only was the end of the war not in sight, but not a single victory of importance had yet been won by the Union arms, and a new call had come for "three hundred thousand more". Nelson must fill her quota or submit to a draft.

George Hardy was forty-five years of age, a farmer and also a skillful carpenter, in the midst of a construction job. He had an invalid wife and six children, the youngest in the cradle. A draft meant nothing to him personally, for he was over military age and his sons too young to be affected. The bounties offered in 1862 were not large enough to be an inducement. He did not deceive himself for a moment into thinking that a man of his age could long withstand the hardships of a campaign. And yet, after quietly considering the matter with his conscience, he decided that it was his duty to go, and forthwith went. Influenced largely by his example, eight others went with him into the same company, and there was no draft.

As he left home and came to the turn of the road he cast a lingering look backward, and then, with prophetic vision, remarked to Russell H. Kittredge, who was carrying him to Hillsboro, "I shall never return".

When George W. Osgood, far away on the battle line in Kentucky, heard of Hardy's death and wrote in his diary, *"He was a good citizen at home and his loss will be severely felt in our town,"* he expressed the universal sentiment.

Cases like this illustrate what Francis Bret Harte meant when, in 1862, he wrote:

"The great heart of the nation, throbbing, answered:
Lord we come."

ORANGE P. HARRIS

Fifty-eighth Regiment Illinois Infantry, Company C; enlisted January 1, 1862; commissioned Second Lieutenant about January 1, 1864; mustered out April 1, 1866. Born in Nelson.

PARKER HART

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted July 26, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; honorably discharged May 16, 1865. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

HENRY D. HOLMES

First Regiment Vermont Cavalry, Company B; enlisted September 5, 1863; with Sheridan through great Shenandoah Valley campaign; wounded and captured by the enemy, with about seventy others, in engagement near Middle Road, Va.; confined in Libby Prison at Richmond, Va.; paroled February 5, 1865, and subsequently exchanged; rejoined regiment and took part in the grand review at Washington; transferred to Company F June 21, 1865; mustered out August 9, 1865. A resident of Nelson, after the war.

CLEMENT S. HOLT

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 2, 1862; mustered in August 13, 1862; mustered out May 11, 1865. Born in Nelson.

EDWARD B. HOLT

Third Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; mustered in December 23, 1863; wounded severely at Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 13, 1864; mustered out May 25, 1865. Born in Nelson. Brother of Marquis L. Holt. Their father, Hiram Holt, tried to enlist in the Sixteenth New Hampshire, but was rejected by the examining surgeon.

MARQUIS L. HOLT

Third Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted August 1, 1861; mustered in August 23, 1861; appointed Corporal; re-enlisted February 16, 1864; promoted to Sergeant Major August 24, 1864; promoted to First Lieutenant April 6, 1865; mustered out July 20, 1865. Born in Nelson.

Enlisting at the age of sixteen, he was never in the hospital, never wounded, never off duty, except when on furlough, and participated in every engagement of the regiment except two or three of minor importance. Captain Daniel Eldridge, the historian of the Third, says that he "was a short, rosy-cheeked youth, full of vigor, hardy, vivacious, and made an excellent soldier."

At the assault on Fort Fisher he was one of the very few from his regiment participating in the capture of the fort. May 5, 1865, he was ordered to act as First Lieutenant and assigned to Company F, and also to be nominally in command of Company C. The last two months of his service he acted as Adjutant.

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted September 2, 1861; mustered in September 9, 1861; re-enlisted January 1, 1864; wounded in the neck at Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862; wounded in the hip at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864; promoted to Sergeant July 1, 1864; promoted to Second Lieutenant 107th U. S. Colored Troops November 23, 1864; mustered in December 3, 1864; resigned July 11, 1865. Born in Nelson.

Howard, Fisher and Worth left Munsonville together, bound for Concord, to enlist in Captain Griffin's Company, which needed recruits from having been decimated at the Battle of Bull Run. That was the only company that Howard could think of because he had been Griffin's pupil in the Nelson School. The others wished to be with Howard, and perhaps also were influenced by the report that, while the Second Regiment was one of the steadiest in the war's first great battle, Company B had done a little better than any of the others.

They were as close friends as the famous "Three Musketeers" and, in their way, were destined to become equally good fighting men. It will be recalled that in Dumas' great romance, the "Three" soon became *four,* Athos, Porthos, Aramis and D'Artagnan, so to our three was soon joined another, Edwin Richardson. They kept together throughout most of their service and made a wonderful record. Nothing but wounds ever kept any one of them out of battle. As far as size was concerned Howard was the Porthos of the combination. Though only twenty years of age he weighed about two hundred and thirty pounds.

Several others, whom they had known in Nelson, went to the Second at the same time as recruits for other companies. Silas L. Black, James W. Felt and Ara M. Wilson went to Company A; Phineas A. Parker to Company D; James F. Richardson and Leonard E. Robbins to Company G, and Lyman E. Wardwell to Company H.

When they arrived, in addition to Griffin they found Rufus Atwood, Edward N. Taft and Gilman E. White, who had been original members of the regiment.

The members of Company B were armed with Sharpe rifles and were the only company in the regiment that had breech loaders. As they could shoot farther and faster that the others they were almost invariably put on the skirmish line to begin the battles. This gave them many unique experiences.

During the latter part of 1861 the regiment was on the lower Potomac at Budd's Ferry, Md., and there, on December 20th, occurred the death of Black, the first among those who had ever lived in Nelson. His body was shipped north for burial in Sullivan. Companies A and B paraded as escort to the boat.

In the spring of 1862 they went to the Peninsular and for a month took part in the Siege of Yorktown, and, on its capture, pressed on toward Williamsburg where, on May 5th, in a cold drizzling rain, occurred their first battle.

The enemy had cut the timber and constructed a strong abattis, behind

which were rifle pits and behind the latter redoubts, the largest of which was Fort Magruder.

Company B was called on and deployed as skirmishers while the brigade formed behind them.

A few moments later Howard was the first Nelson man to shed his blood on any battlefield. As he was struggling forward a bullet passed through his neck. The surgeon told him afterwards that a deviation of about a hair's breadth would have severed the jugular. He dropped out and started for the rear, and then, when it suddenly occurred to him that he had left behind his precious rifle, turned and went back, found the gun and delivered it to Worth, who promised to take care of it. The latter loaned it to Lieutenant Henry of the First Massachusetts, who used it effectively that day and had it ready for Howard when he returned from the hospital a few weeks afterwards.

A little later in the day Robbins was seriously wounded and Taft was cut in two by a cannon ball from Fort Magruder. The latter was the first Nelson man killed in action.

Howard returned to the company before the first of June, and on the night of June 3rd marched with it to the trenches on the battlefield of Fair Oaks to relieve Sickles' Excelsior Brigade, which had been fighting there continuously for three days.

It was raining and pitch dark. No lights of any kind were allowed. Howard dropped down just where he was halted, and, despite the continuous firing and the terrible stench of the battlefield, slept the sound sleep of exhaustion. When daylight came he found that the mound of earth which had served as a pillow was a grave, and that only a few inches of earth separated his head from its occupant, whose feet were entirely exposed. All around lay hundreds of corpses of which there had not been even a pretence of burial.

Three weeks later, not far from there, at Oak Grove, occurred an engagement which in war annals only ranks as a skirmish, but it was a serious affair for Company B. As usual they were sent to drive in the enemies' pickets. They did so, but only after the most desperate fighting. Of the forty-two men who went in twenty-two were killed or wounded. Richardson was wounded. Howard, Fisher and Worth came out unscathed. Fisher was soon after captured and sent to Belle Isle, but was exchanged and returned to the company within a few weeks.

Then, as the army retreated, battle succeeded battle in rapid succession. Peach Orchard, Va., June 29; Glendale June 30, and Malvern Hill from July 1 to August 5. For six weeks they were almost constantly under fire. As Howard expressed it, "Company B skirmished all the way from Fair Oaks to Malvern Hill."

After the close of the Peninsula campaign the Second went to join the army of General Pope and fought at Kettle Run, Va., August 27, 1862, and Second Bull Run August 29.

The brigade, of which it was the center regiment, was ordered to drive the enemy out of the woods. It encountered the first line of rebels in a railroad cut and received from them a murderous fire. With a yell every man dashed forward, and in a moment the railroad was carried and those there who had delivered their volley in a prone position were taken prisoners before

they had time to rise. Howard says that this was the only charge in which he participated that actually went through. Here Worth was severely wounded in the arm.

Those who were unhurt dashed on for the second line, which rose and received them with a volley, but before they could realize it the Second was in their midst and the line broke and fled. A third line still remained and the regiment pressed on and was just breaking through once more when it was assailed on both flanks. In its impetuosity it had got far in advance of the rest of the brigade. It had to fall back and succeeded in doing so without losing its organization. Company B was left with no commissioned officer, Captain Littlefield having been killed and Lieutenant Ballard wounded.

The historian of the regiment says: "At this time a brigade of the Ninth Army Corps came up and advanced into the woods just to the right. The Second noted from its flags that one of the regiments was the Sixth New Hampshire, but there was no time for visiting." (See John Stevens and George W. Osgood.)

In the great assault on the Heights of Fredericksburg, on December 13, 1862, the Second did not take part, as it was assigned to guard the pontoon bridges over the Rappahannock, but on Sunday, December 14, Company B had a little battle of its own. A battery of the enemy was shelling their brigade and they went out with the Sharpes and silenced it by shooting gunners and horses.

In the late spring of 1863 the regiment was granted a furlough and Howard and his friends visited Nelson. When they returned Lee's Campaign for the invasion of the North had already begun, and the army had started on forced marches to head him off. In striving to overtake the others the Second was put to such a pace that Howard, with sore feet from new shoes, for the first and only time in his life, could not keep up and made the acquaintance of that despised class, the habitual stragglers, always behind to avoid possible engagements. He, however, arrived in camp after nightfall and the next day held his own with the best.

At Gettysburg, on the second day, July 2, 1863, the regiment had its worst battle. They were in the Third Corps, commanded by General Daniel E. Sickles who, instead of forming on Cemetery Ridge with the rest of the battle line, stationed his corps, of about ten thousand men, a thousand yards in front, on the Emmettsburg road, where with both flanks exposed they were attacked by about thirty thousand confederates, and, after desperate fighting, were driven back to the position originally intended for them.

The Second New Hampshire behaved with gallantry and brilliancy, among other things making a charge that is historic. Company B was not in the charge. They had taken possession of a farmhouse from which they were sharpshooting at the enemy as it advanced across the open, repeatedly bringing down regimental colors. Even the wounded joined in the firing. When the regiment was driven back these wounded and some others who were slow in getting out were captured.

Captain Hubbard and First Lieutenant Ballard of Company B were both killed, and Second Lieutenant Shute was wounded. Corporal Worth was killed during the retreat, and his body, which could not be identified, is

buried somewhere on the field. Edwin Richardson was wounded, and Corporal Lyman E. Wardwell captured.

On July 29, George W. Osgood, with the Sixth New Hampshire in Kentucky, wrote in his diary: *"Reported that the Second New Hampshire was all cut to pieces at Gettysburg."* The report was true, and yet the old regiment had enough vitality left to fight on many a day afterwards. They gave a good account of themselves at Wapping Heights, Va., July 23, 1863, and Swift Creek, Va., May 9, 1864, and gained great distinction at Drurys Bluff, May 16, 1864.

Edwin Richardson was wounded again at Swift Creek. Howard and Fisher went safely through all three.

The night before Drurys Bluff Howard helped string a tangle of telegraph wire in front of the position held by the regiment and, when the enemy charged in the fog on the following morning, they suffered enormous losses. Major J. D. Cooper thus reported to the Adjutant General of New Hampshire: "In the battle of Drurys Bluff, on the sixteenth of May last, the regiment doubtless inflicted more serious damages than in any other fight in which it was engaged. It is estimated that our regiment alone killed over fifteen hundred rebels and wounded over three times that number. The ground was strewn for more than three hundred yards in our front so thick with rebels that it was difficult to move without treading on the dead."

Then came the assault at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864. General Grant, in his memoirs, says: "I have always regretted that the last assault at Cold Harbor was ever made. No advantage whatever could be gained to compensate for the heavy loss we sustained." The total loss was nearly thirteen thousand men, most of them within the first twenty minutes. The wounded who then fell and were unable to crawl off without assistance, lay between the lines unaided for six days, or until they died.

As, just at daybreak, the line formed for the assault, Howard was acting as left guide of his regiment. A minie ball passing through his hip splintering the bone. As he reeled from the shock a General shouted, "Sergeant, get up into your place!" "Don't you see the man is wounded?" said his Adjutant, and then the General in a different voice added, "This is no place for you. Get out of here!"

Howard tried his best to do so, but would have made sad work of it had not a hostler, who was taking the Colonel's horse to the rear, seen his plight and given him assistance.

As they passed along they met a group of horsemen. In the center was a very ordinary looking man, dressed hardly better than a private, almost slouchy in appearance. From the deference paid to him by his brilliant staff Howard concluded he was some one of importance and, on inquiry, was told that it was General Grant.

Soon after he reached the field hospital who should be brought in but Fisher. Howard greeted him cordially, saying he was glad to see him and that now they could go home together.

They went together first to a hospital in Washington, then to another hospital in New Haven, Conn., and finally were furloughed and came back together to Nelson.

From necessity Fisher's fighting days were over. Howard, however, re-

covered, re-enlisted and went back. As he was ascending the James River, August 30, 1864, he heard the explosion as the Mine was blown up at Petersburg. (See William B. Robbins.)

In November, 1864, he was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the 107th United States Colored Troops. None but men of proved courage were selected for such positions. The confederates boasted that they gave no quarter to "niggers" nor white men who commanded them.

This regiment was brought to an excellent state of discipline and did good service in a reconnaissance in front of Richmond and afterwards in the Fort Fisher Expedition.

After Fort Fisher fell they marched to join Sherman's Army in North Carolina, and ran across a great crowd of federal prisoners which Sherman's advance had caused to be released from the pen at Salisbury. Howard says this was the most terrible thing in his experience. They were hardly recognizable as human beings. The negroes emptied their haversacks and did all they could for them, yet he saw some of them fall on a dead horse by the roadside and devour its raw flesh like ravening wolves.

Then he was detailed to command a company of colored artillery stationed at Fort Macon, and was offered a Captain's commission, but the war was over and he was sick of everything that would remind him of the horror of it, so he resigned July 11, 1865. He had been in the service almost four years, and all told had never missed as much as a week from illness or other disability, except wounds.

GEORGE A. HOWARD

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company D; mustered in March 9, 1865; mustered out July 8, 1865; died July 9, 1865, before reaching home. Born in Nelson.

Howard, intensely patriotic, as became one who was born on the Fourth of July, gave his life for his country at the age of twenty-one,—by the irony of fate, dying after the war was over and the very next day after he was mustered out. He was an unusually large, strong and handsome man, weighing over two hundred pounds; yet, as happened with many another, four months of service killed him. On May 6th, soon after he had joined his regiment at Savannah, Ga., they were ordered to Augusta, and, despite the great heat, made a forced march of one hundred and fifty miles in nine days, arriving just in time to form the guard for Jefferson Davis, Alexander H. Stephens and the other high officers of the Confederacy, who had recently been captured. In June they made another arduous march back to Savannah and camped outside the city within the influence of the neighboring fever-breeding marshes. Here many hardy soldiers who had borne the severities of nearly three years of service broke down, and the combined influence of climate, improper diet and unwholesome surroundings made sickness almost universal. In one of his letters he wrote: "What do you suppose we are going to have for dinner, hard tack and ham fat; for supper, ham fat and hard tack; for breakfast, hard tack and coffee. How is that for vegetables this time of year?" He became very ill, but refused to give up, stuck to the regiment and carried his own knapsack and other equipment to the boat that was to bring him home. He died on it, quite suddenly, before reaching Hilton Head, S. C., and is buried there in the National Cemetery.

EDWIN P. HUNT

First Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted April 20, 1861; only a week after the fall of Fort Sumter; mustered in May 3, 1861; mustered out August 9. 1861; the first man who enlisted from Nelson. See also George G. Hardy.

Later, Hunt paid $300 to secure the enlistment in Nelson's quota of William Byefield of New York City, who, unlike most of his class, made an excellent record—viz. enlisted and mustered into Fifth New Hampshire Infantry, Company A, September 30, 1863; transferred to U. S. Navy, as Landsman, April 19, 1864; served on U. S. S. *Mathew Vassar, Fuschia* and *Mercury;* discharged as Quartermaster, September 14, 1865.

SYLVANUS J. KENNISTON

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted June 17, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; died in service of disease at Annapolis, Md., April 28, 1864. Enlisted from Nelson.

MALCOLM G. KITTREDGE

Second Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company G; mustered in May 25, 1861; killed at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863. Born in Nelson.

MINOT MELVILLE KITTREDGE

Thirteenth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company H; mustered in July 25, 1862; wounded very seriously the second day at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863; discharged August 1, 1864, for disability arising from wounds. He carried a bullet in his body the rest of his life and constantly suffered from its effects. Born in Nelson.

HARLAN P. KNIGHT

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted August 18, 1862; mustered in September 18, 1862; wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., December 13, 1862; died of wounds December 26, 1862, at Falmouth, Va. Enlisted from Nelson.

A piece of shell, nearly spent, hit him on the breast without breaking the skin. At first his injury was not supposed to be serious and he remained on duty for several days afterwards, but finally succumbed to internal injuries.

SAMUEL G. KNIGHT

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted August 18, 1862; mustered in September 18, 1862; wounded at Battle of the Wilderness May 6, 1864; mustered out June 4, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

HENRY J. KNOWLTON (See Bissell)

THOMAS J. LAHIFF

First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry, Company A; enlisted and mustered in March 10, 1864; wounded July 8, 1864, on picket at Sycamore Church, Va.; discharged for disability May 15, 1865, at Frederick, Md. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

JOHN Q. LANE

Eighteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted September 2, 1864; mustered in September 13, 1864, as Corporal; mustered out June 10, 1865. A resident of Nelson after the war.

FRANCIS M. LOVELAND

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted August 11, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; discharged for disability October 14, 1864. Enlisted from Nelson.

HORATIO McINTIRE

First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry, Company K; enlisted December 23, 1863; commissioned Second Lieutenant March 18, 1864; dismissed February 15, 1865. A resident of Nelson during and after the war for many years.

McIntire was brave and patriotic. He was also young, good looking and gallant, with a volunteer's ideas of military discipline. According to a member of his regiment, his trouble arose in this way: "The orders were for no one to leave camp on a certain night, but Horatio took his horse and went to a dance, accompanied some of the fair ladies home across the creek, did not get back until morning, and arrived with his horse in a very heated condition. He was reprimanded by his superior officer and talked back in quite forcible language. For this he was court-martialed and dismissed."

HOSEA B. MOULTON

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted August 10, 1862; mustered in August 18, 1862; honorably discharged at Point Lookout, Md., December 10, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

CHARLES H. NYE

First Regiment U. S. Volunteer Sharpshooters, Company E; enlisted August 28, 1861; mustered in September 9, 1861; appointed Corporal October, 1862; appointed Sergeant January 1, 1863; discharged September 8, 1864, on expiration of term of service. A resident of Nelson after the war.

This organization was commonly known as "Berdan's Sharpshooters". Company E was in over thirty major engagements and gained an enviable reputation.

ALPHONSO E. OSBORN (otherwise known as James Smith)

Third Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted January 6, 1863; mustered in January 6, 1863; wounded August 16, 1864, at Deep Bottom, Va.; appointed Corporal May 1, 1865; mustered out July 20, 1865. Born in Nelson. Brother of Corties S., Daniel W. and Henry E. Osborn.

CORTIES S. OSBORN

Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 13, 1862; mustered in September 19, 1862; died of disease October 30, 1864, at Hampton, Va. Born in Nelson.

DANIEL W. OSBORN

Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 12, 1862; mustered in September 19, 1862; appointed Corporal April 1, 1865; mustered out June 21, 1865. Born in Nelson.

HENRY E. OSBORN

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 11, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; discharged for disability May 25, 1863, at Philadelphia, Pa. Born in Nelson.

ABNER W. OSGOOD

Third Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; mustered in as Sergeant August 23, 1861; died of disease at Beaufort, S. C., October 10, 1862. Previous to such service he enlisted April 25, 1861, as a member of Captain George H. Gillis' company of Milford Volunteers, State Service, and was discharged at Fort Constitution July 12, 1861. Born in Nelson.

GEORGE W. OSGOOD

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company K; mustered in December 11, 1861; appointed First Sergeant; severely wounded at Second Bull Run, Va., August 29, 1862; appointed Second Lieutenant January 3, 1864; re-enlisted January 4, 1864; promoted to First Lieutenant July 3, 1864; discharged for disability November 7, 1864. Born in Nelson.

He was one of the original members of the Sixth Regiment, joining while its recruits were being drilled, by Lieutenant Colonel Griffin, on the snow-covered fairground in Keene. This drill, while not popular at the time, was appreciated more later when they found that they had the reputation of being one of the best disciplined organizations in the service, and made so magnificent an appearance in their first engagement at Camden, N. C., April 19, 1862, as to receive official commendation by General Burnside, by General Reno and by the Governor of New Hampshire.

In Company K there was a number of men from Stoddard, including John and George Stevens, and Lyman and Frank Richardson, brothers of Edwin Richardson, and in the early days, when large Sibley tents were pro-

vided, Osgood lodged with them. Later, after his cousin John Osgood arrived, for quite a while he had him for a bed fellow.

Second Bull Run, August 29, 1862, was on the whole the worst battle in which the Sixth was ever engaged. An account of it is given elsewhere in connection with the records of the two John Stevens.

During the advance into the woods a large bullet struck Osgood in a place where it might have killed him had not a Testament and other articles in his pocket broken its force. At is was, it raised a large lump on his body. This did not stop him, and he pressed on until ordered to retire.

Just before getting out of the woods he received a severe wound in the hip. Some of the Confederates were using a smooth bore musket loaded with "buck and ball," *i. e.*, three buckshot and a round bullet. He was probably hit by a buckshot, which penetrated deeply and, despite cruel probings, was never extracted, and occasioned suffering all the rest of his service.

This kept him in the hospital for some time, and he thus missed the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. He, however, returned in time for Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862, which in some respects was even more terrible than Bull Run.

He faithfully kept a diary during all the years he was at the front. The one for 1862 was lost, but those for 1863 and 1864 are still in existence with every day accounted for. References to other Nelson men are frequent.

Under date of January 1, 1863, he writes:

> *"No drill. It was a holiday season. Albert Taft was here from the 9th Regiment, and Frederick Richardson from the 2nd. Also Sumner Fisher, Henry Worth and Edwin Richardson from the 2nd. When will the war close? Before another New Year?"*

It appears that in June, 1863, he went through the arduous Vicksburg Campaign, and in July the Campaign against Jackson, Miss., and, though his wound troubled him, brought up in Kentucky in August not much if any worse off than most of the others. The whole regiment was reduced to a state of collapse from sheer exhaustion.

The following entries in his diary show a sense of humor:

> *"July 4, 1863. Vicksburg said to be surrendered. No firing. Orders to march with 5 days' rations. Started about 4½ P. M. Marched about four miles toward Jackson.*
>
> *"July 6, 1864. Orders to do no more foraging.*
>
> *"July 7, 1864. I went more than two miles to confiscate some beans and after arriving at Camp they were worthless."*

On July 29th, among other things, he wrote this:

> *"Two letters for our Company. One for myself from Nelson. News of the decease of George G. Hardy, 16th N. H., at Port Hudson, La., June 23, of yellow fever. He was a good citizen at home and his loss will be severely felt in our town. Reported that the 2nd N. H. was all cut to pieces at Gettysburg."*

In the latter part of 1863 he had a short furlough, arriving in Nelson November 23 and leaving again on December 8.

In the spring of 1864, after his re-enlistment and Commission, he had another furlough of 30 days, which was slightly extended on account of the state of his health. During this, on February 18th, he was married. He started back April 13, 1864, and apparently did not miss a day between then and August 2d.

On May 6th began the battle of the Wilderness and, under one name or another, it was a continuous engagement for the next three months. Probably there was hardly a day that he was not under fire. The Wilderness merged into Spottsylvania May 8-20; that into North Anna River, May 23-26, and the latter into Totopotomoy, May 30-31, Bethesda Church, June 2-3, and Cold Harbor, June 4-12. The Siege of Petersburg began on June 16 and continued for many months with constant picket firing.

Meanwhile, on July 3rd, in recognition of his good work, he was promoted to First Lieutenant.

In the latter part of July John Osgood wrote to his father, Horatio, that George W. had dysentery and was badly off but was so obstinate he would not give up.

On July 30 occurred the great battle of the "Mine," and two days later, August 2, Lieutenant Osgood wrote this in his diary:

> *"Another hot day. Sergeant Irving Rand, Co. H, died in the morning of wounds received July 30. He was wounded through the head. Captain Greenleaf, same Co., pretty low and feeble. I was carried to City Point in the afternoon. Rode in a baggage wagon which nearly killed me. Had kind of a fever when I arrived and felt badly generally. John Upton came in to see me, reduced to a skeleton. Expecting to go away to-morrow, he says, which he thinks his only chance of recovery."*

He never was able to return to duty. Growing much worse, he was sent North to the hospital at David's Island, New York, where he was visited by his wife and his brother-in-law, Orson C. Tolman, who, as soon as he could travel, brought him back to Nelson, starting August 31st.

In the following November he went back to Annapolis, but the examining surgeons certified he would never again be fit for duty, so he received an honorable discharge. His period of service lacked only one month of being three years.

"Deacon" Osgood, as he was afterwards commonly called, was in many respects an unique figure of a soldier. Intensely religious and with patriotism part of his religion, concealing kindness of heart by gruffness of speech, independent in thought and action, with bravery and devotion that rendered him very dangerous on the battlefield, he seemed like one of Cromwell's Ironsides translated from the Seventeenth into the Nineteenth century.

Regardless of his surroundings he prayed aloud each night. None of his comrades had the courage to follow his example, but though some of them were rather rough men, no one interfered with him or insulted him. Though some laughed at him they were careful not to do so in his presence, and he had the respect of all and the affection of not a few.

During all his service he was an officer, and for a long time he occupied the difficult position of Orderly Sergeant. His successive promotions indicated the approval of his superiors. General Griffin is said to have been particularly fond of him.

No one was more anxious than he to preserve the memories of those who had part in the great struggle. As long as he lived he took the lead in the observance of Memorial Day, and no other man knew as much as he about the records of Nelson soldiers. He sought to honor not only those who were in the town's quota, but all who had ever been identified with Nelson, and he made up a roster which is the basis of the one here published.

He may be regarded as the father of the present enterprise.

JOHN OSGOOD

Sixth Regiment, New Hampshire Infantry, Company K; enlisted August 15, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; appointed Corporal; mustered out June 4, 1865. Born in Nelson.

John Osgood went direct from a Nelson farm to a battlefield in Maryland without intervening military drill or experience. It came about in this way: After haying was over in August, 1862, he went to Concord, where the Ninth Regiment was in camp completing its recruiting, and visited friends who were going out with it. He had been considering for a long time what was his own duty, and while there finally reached the conclusion that he ought to enlist. The natural thing would have been to join the Ninth, for they were very anxious to obtain more men, but, with characteristic Yankee caution and shrewdness, before saying anything about his intention, he decided to take expert advice. He had heard that Paymaster Henry McFarlane had been in the Regular Army and concluded that therefore he must be well posted; so, although he was an entire stranger, he called at his office and talked things over with him. McFarlane was kind and explained many matters. Finally Osgood admitted that he thought some of enlisting and asked what regiment would be best for him. McFarlane advised him to go into a veteran organization because he could learn much by watching the experienced men. In answer to a question whether the "Sixth" was a good Regiment, he said there was none better. Osgood thought of the Sixth because he knew it was commanded by Colonel Griffin, who not only was a Nelson man but had taught school in District No. 1, with Osgood as a pupil. The next question was: "How do I go about it to enlist?" and the reply, "I'll tell you how and I will also tell you how you can make thirteen dollars. The State pays fifteen dollars to any one who secures a recruit. You go to Lawyer Badger, right in this building, pay him two dollars and get him to make out a set of enlistment papers; then go to the Examining Surgeon, also in this building, and if he says you are all right come back to me. I will muster you into the Sixth Regiment and give you an order on which you can collect fifteen dollars for having recruited yourself." Osgood obeyed instructions to the letter and within an hour was a full-fledged soldier. He was allowed to go back to Nelson for a few days to bid his folks good-bye, and then started for the front and joined his regiment as it was marching from Washington to repel the invasion of Maryland. At South Mountain, on September 14th, he had his baptism of fire and admits he nearly fainted as he saw the first

wounded man—shot through the front of the head with both eyes put out. Three days later he reached Antietam where, on September 17, over twenty-one thousand men were killed or wounded—more than fell on any other day during the whole war.

The Sixth was then indeed a veteran organization. Disease had swept its ranks. Two weeks before, at Second Bull Run, it had lost half of those engaged, and two more fights at Chantilly and South Mountain had occurred since then. Only about one hundred and fifty men were left, and Recruit Osgood, following Mr. McFarlane's advice, was watching them to see what he should do. They proved good instructors.

On the morning of that memorable day, Burnside, commanding the Union left, received orders that the stone bridge over Antietam Creek must be carried at once and at any cost. To lead the desperate enterprise he selected the Sixth New Hampshire and the Second Maryland.

The road came down to the creek nearly three hundred yards below the bridge, then turned at right angles and ran along the bank of the stream, with only the narrow creek between it and the enemy, then turned again at right angles to cross the bridge. The opposite bank was a steep, high bluff covered on its top and sides with forest trees. Behind these trees and behind barricades of stone and logs the enemy were posted, their fire covering every foot of ground over which our troops must pass to reach the bridge. The two skeleton regiments formed in a field below where the road came down to the creek, some sixty or seventy rods below the bridge, directly under the fire of the concealed enemy. They fixed bayonets and moved at the double quick, charging in the most gallant manner directly up the road toward the bridge. As, led by Colonel Griffin, they passed from the field into the road, the enemy from their entrenchments redoubled the fury of their fire, sweeping the head of the column with murderous effect. Of the first hundred men who passed through the opening in the fence, at least nine-tenths were killed or wounded. Osgood saw the regimental flag go down with all the men about it. He saw Griffin pick it up and carry it forward, and followed it, keeping as close as possible. They reached the end of the bridge and there they had to stop,—too few were left. They sheltered themselves behind fences, logs, trees, or whatever other cover they could find, held their ground without yielding an inch, and waited for reinforcements. Osgood climbed a fence and heard the bullets thud into the rail over which his leg was flung. Menville Bowers of Peterboro, the next man on his left, fell, hit, as was subsequently ascertained, seven times. With Sergeant Rand and others of his company, and W. W. French of Company B, he got behind a scrub oak and they took turns in resting their muskets in a crotch while they fired. Osgood shot and fell back to load. Rand stepped into his place and fell back dead in French's arms, with a bullet through his forehead. Help came. About one o'clock the bridge was passed, at the cost of five hundred men, and all the long afternoon the battle raged on the bluff beyond. The Sixth was the first to reach the top, and when darkness came they rested on their arms, expecting to fight again at daybreak.

Thus closed a rather exciting day for a young man who only three weeks before had left peaceful Nelson.

A month later he fought at White Sulphur Springs, and on December 13th, 1862, as he climbed the heights at Fredericksburg, a shell burst in front

of him, killing two, wounding several others, and upsetting Osgood and covering him with earth.

The following June, with his regiment, he took part in the glorious campaign which on July 4, 1863, resulted in the fall of Vicksburg, the key of the Mississippi, with thirty-four thousand prisoners,—the first great victory for the Union arms. Then, without pause to enter the captured city, came the Battle of Jackson, from July tenth to sixteenth, preceded and followed by forced marches and about every kind of hardship to which troops are ever subjected.

The weather was extremely hot, even for that region. The running streams were dry. They camped in the swamps of the Yazoo,—meaning river of death. They were pushed to the limit of human endurance, and beyond that limit for many of them. When, in August, they reached Nicholasville, Kentucky, the Sixth Regiment was, for the time being, completely done for. One morning only sixteen men were reported fit for even light duty. Company I had but one man. Company K had but two—John Osgood and his tentmate, John Upton of Stoddard.

There probably was a reason why they escaped the general calamity. Long before Dr. Sherman Cooper, Surgeon of the Regiment, had advised Osgood not to drink water unless it was first boiled. He probably gave the same advice to others, but few followed it. All through the Mississippi campaign, however, Upton and Osgood strained the swamp water through their bandanna handkerchiefs, "to take out the larger wrigglers", then boiled it, with a little coffee, in their tin cups, filled their canteens, and drank nothing else. They arrived at Nicholasville, tired indeed, but still fit for fight or frolic.

In January, 1864, the regiment left Kentucky for New Hampshire to enjoy a furlough of thirty days, which Osgood spent in Nelson.

In March they returned to Annapolis, Md., where Osgood was appointed Corporal and detailed for about a month to the Postoffice of the Ninth Army Corps.

"Colonel" Griffin was now General Griffin, placed in command of the Second Brigade of the Second Division of the Ninth Corps, and one of the first things he did was to detail Osgood to the Commissary Department of his brigade. Two reasons, among others, prevented this being a sinecure. Griffin insisted on having the commissary tent close to his own headquarters, where he could see that everything was done just right, and, unlike any other general in the whole army, he pitched his headquarters right behind the firing line, where the protection was but little greater than in the trenches. When in the locality known as the "Mine", in front of Petersburg, the Commissary tent and its supplies were riddled with bullets, and one day, as Osgood was reporting to the General in the latter's tent, a bullet passed through the General's hat just about where his head came beneath it,—near enough to have cut his hair if there had been any.

Though nominally having a commissioned officer over him, Osgood, with seventeen assistants, practically ran his department, and remained there until the war was over.

He returned to Nelson with the unusual distinctions of never having been in camp of instruction, guard-house or hospital, and with a record of one hundred per cent. of efficient duty.

For a further account of the Battle of Antietam, see John Stevens. For another example of the effect of the Vicksburg campaign on the health of a regiment, See George G. Scripture.

DAVID C. OWEN

Fourth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company C; enlisted September 4, 1861; mustered in September 18, 1861; re-enlisted February 19, 1864; mustered in February 28, 1864; mustered out August 23, 1865. A resident of Nelson after the war. Name omitted from tablet by inadvertence.

CLINTON J. PARKER

First Regiment New Hampshire Heavy Artillery, Company H; mustered in August 31, 1864; mustered out June 15, 1865. Born in Nelson.

JOSIAH PARKER

Forty-second Regiment Illinois Infantry, Company K; enlisted October 21, 1864; was in seven engagements, including Battle of Nashville; honorably discharged October 19, 1865. Born in Nelson.

JUDSON PARKER

First Missouri State Militia, Company C; mustered into service of United States January 14, 1862; honorably discharged for disability on surgeon's certificate August 12, 1864; admitted to Soldiers' Home, Orting, Washington, May 27, 1896, where he died March 3, 1902. Born in Nelson.

LUCIUS PARKER

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 30, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; killed at Opequam or Winchester, Va., September 19, 1864; one of thirty-three officers and men buried in one grave. Born in Nelson.

PHINEAS A. PARKER

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company D; enlisted September 6, 1861; mustered in September 17, 1861; discharged for disability May 23, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

GEORGE S. PETTS

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted October 9, 1862; mustered in October 24, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863; left sick at Mound City Hospital, Illinois. Born in Nelson. (See Charles A. Tarbox.)

JOSEPH S. PHILLIPS

Thirty-third Missouri Infantry, Company E; appointed Corporal; wounded at Battle of Helena, Ark., July 4, 1863; died

from wound at Tuscombia, Mo., September 17, 1863. A resident of Nelson before the war. (See Minot R. Phillips.)

MINOT R. PHILLIPS

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted August 11, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; died in the service of disease at Aquia Creek, Va., January 30, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

Reuben Phillips, who was elected deacon of the Nelson Church in 1829, had six sons, viz.: Joseph S., Rufus, Washington, Simeon W., Minot R. and Judson. Washington was the father of Rev. Elsworth W. Phillips, who now lives in the town. To this family the war brought tragedy in many and peculiar forms. It was "a house divided against itself." Brother fought brother.

In 1861 all except Washington and Minot were living in Missouri, where some of them had married and all were active, prosperous men.

Joseph S. was at Tuscombia, where the secession sentiment was so strong that he had to flee for his life. Enlisting in the Thirty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, he became a Corporal, was wounded in the battle of Helena, Ark., July 4, 1863, and died as the result of such wound September 17, 1863. His eldest son, Clayton, a lad in his teens, also enlisted on the Union side and died in the service.

Simeon enlisted in a Missouri regiment on the *rebel* side, was taken prisoner and confined for a time at Fortress Monroe.

Rufus and Judson, living at Falkners Hill in Laclede County, were also influenced by their environment, and became Southern sympathizers. Rufus organized and became Captain of a company of Guerillas, and Judson was his first Sergeant. The former received a severe cut on the head at Springfield, Mo., in an engagement with Fremont's forces, and later was taken prisoner and confined, until the close of the war, in the Federal Prison at Alton, Ill. Judson was shot through the head by a United States Cavalryman at Linecreek, Mo.

When Deacon Reuben, who was an ardent patriot, heard that three of his sons were with the enemy, he was driven nearly frantic, and the fact probably cost him his life. He dropped dead in the Keene Post Office where he had just mailed a letter bearing on the subject to his youngest son, Judson.

Minot R. left wife and young children to enlist in the Ninth New Hampshire. As a soldier he was one of the best. He escaped the shot and shell of the "Slaughter Pen" at Fredericksburg, only to succumb to the more terrible pestilence that lurks on every battlefield. In the History of the Regiment, at page 250, a comrade thus tells the particulars of his death: "After the fight (Fredericksburg) Wheeler, Phillips and myself were detailed to go over with the party that was to bury the dead. The trenches were dug six feet wide and three feet deep, and in one trench in particular I remember helping put in two hundred and seventy-five men, all of them entirely nude, for the rebels were short of clothing at that time. We were there burying the dead two days and one night. The night we returned to camp Wheeler, Phillips and myself were taken sick with typhoid fever and in a few days were loaded into a freight car and shipped to Aquia Creek with the sick

and wounded. On arriving there we were put into a tent that would hold twelve small cots. We had one man to attend to us, and he had to walk around with rubber boots on, halfway to his knees in mud. In a little while Phillips, who laid opposite to me on the other side of the tent, died in the forenoon; and that afternoon Wheeler, who had a cot close beside mine, also died."

GEORGE E. PLUMMER

Thirty-sixth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company D; mustered in July 28, 1862; severely wounded in engagement at Campbell's Station, Tenn., November 16, 1863; left on battlefield and never heard from afterwards. Resident of Nelson before the war.

HENRY D. REED

Eleventh Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted August 15, 1862; mustered in September 2, 1862; discharged for disability August 14, 1863. Born in Nelson.

EDWIN RICHARDSON

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted August 9, 1861; mustered in August 20, 1861; wounded June 25, 1862, at Oak Grove, Va.; wounded second time July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; appointed Corporal July 7, 1863; re-enlisted and mustered in January 1, 1864; wounded third time May 9, 1864, near Petersburg, Va.; appointed First Sergeant July 1, 1864; appointed Sergeant Major November 6, 1864; appointed First Lieutenant, Company D, January 8, 1865; resigned May 11, 1865. Previous to aforesaid service, enlisted April 27, 1861, in Captain Jonathan R. Bayley's Company of Keene Volunteers; discharged July 12, 1861, at Fort Constitution. Enlisted from Nelson.

He was a son of Luther Richardson of Stoddard and had four brothers in the service, viz.: Lyman E. and Frank, in the Sixth New Hampshire, Company K; David L., in the Fourteenth New Hampshire, Company A; and Harvey J., in the First New Hampshire Cavalry, Company L. They all made excellent records. (See under John Stevens and George W. Osgood for mention of Lyman E.) For further account of Edwin see what is said of Charles A. Howard.

JAMES F. RICHARDSON

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 23, 1861; mustered in August 24, 1861; mustered out August 23, 1864, near Petersburg, Va. Enlisted from Nelson.

JOSEPH M. RICHARDSON

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted September 14, 1862; mustered in October 24, 1862;

mustered out August 20, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson. See Charles A. Tarbox.

GEORGE W. ROBBINS

Ninth Regiment Vermont Infantry, Company A; enlisted August 9, 1864; wounded at Chapin Farm, Va., September 29, 1864; mustered out at Richmond, Va., June 13, 1865. A resident of Nelson after the war.

HORACE W. ROBBINS

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company C; enlisted September 1, 1862; mustered in October 18, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863. Born in Nelson.

LEONARD E. ROBBINS

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 23, 1861; mustered in August 26, 1861; wounded at Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862; discharged on account of wounds January 7, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

WILLIAM B. ROBBINS

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 6, 1862; mustered in August 13, 1862; mustered out June 10, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

With the exception of the Vicksburg and Jackson campaigns, in June and July, 1863, when he was in hospital at Baltimore, Md., Robbins took part in every engagement, great or small, of the Ninth Regiment.

They left Concord August 25, 1862, armed with the "Windsor" rifle, a clumsy brass-bound piece with a large sabre bayonet. They did not retain it long for it required a different cartridge from those used by other regiments. Inability to obtain ammunition gave them at the start an interesting experience.

They went into camp at Arlington Heights, opposite Washington, on August 28, and while there one night an alarm was given that the enemy were coming. They fell in and awaited the expected attack without the means of firing a shot.

Their first fight was at South Mountain, September 14, where they covered themselves with glory, thanks partly to their remarkable bayonets.

After the enemy had been well pounded by veteran troops, the green Ninth, only three weeks from home, with little or no training, was brought up and ordered to charge. With as yet unbroken ranks it presented a formidable appearance, being about five times as large as any other regiment with which it was brigaded. The one regiment was mistaken for a new brigade of reinforcements, and this, and the line of strange and terrible bayonets glistening in the sun, was too much for rebel nerves. They broke, and with comparatively little opposition the Ninth rushed clear to the summit of the mountain.

Later they looked back on the affair as almost a joke, but at the time it gave them unbounded satisfaction.

Three days later, at Antietam, they saw real fighting and acquitted themselves creditably.

Then came the acid test of their soldierly qualities, on the heights of Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862.

"The smooth hill is bare, and the cannons are planted,
Like Gorgon fates shading its terrible brow;
The word has been passed that the stormers are wanted,
And Burnside's battalions are mustering now."

Early in the morning heavy firing began and the regiment was put under arms and kept moving hither and thither in an agony of suspense. About one o'clock the brigade was ordered into the fight, a regiment at a time. The Ninth did not move till near the middle of the short December afternoon.

Elsewhere Amos A. Wyman gives some account of his experiences in the early stages of the advance.

They moved forward, at the double quick, under a galling fire of artillery until they came to a road running through a deep cut with walls about fifteen feet high, and nearly perpendicular. Into this they rushed to find their crowded ranks raked by a murderous fire of shell and canister from two pieces of artillery. There was nothing to do but go forward, and they proceeded to scale the opposite bank, and, when the survivors reached the summit, they met an even heavier artillery fire, and, in addition, volleys of musketry full in their faces.

Even then they did not stop, but swung into an open field, where there was sad evidence that many regiments had been before them. This field is known in history as "The Slaughter Pen." With what reason may be judged when it is considered that a few days later, when it was visited by a burial party, on one measured acre there were counted *six hundred and twenty dead men.* (See Minot R. Phillips.)

Further advance was impossible, and here they remained until dark, when, having exhausted their ammunition, they were withdrawn to the edge of the city.

Robbins, seeking shelter, entered a deserted house. A cannon ball smashed through it. Reflecting that lightning never strikes twice in the same place, he concluded to remain, and did so till a few moments later another ball came through close to his head.

The following spring he fell sick and was in a hospital in Baltimore at the time of Lee's invasion of the North, and he recalls the excitement when it was believed that Baltimore was in danger of capture. Barricades were constructed in the streets, and convalescents in the hospitals called out to defend them.

Beginning with the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, he went through all the practically continuous battle that, under various names lasted until the end of the war in April, 1865.

Spottsylvania was the Ninth's fiercest conflict. Robbins was one of the skirmishers that drove in the enemy's pickets before the famous charge, all along the line, that took place on May 12th.

By the end of July, constant fighting, and disease resulting from exposure, had, despite considerable recruiting, reduced the ranks to about two hundred men. Half of these were lost in the terrible affair of the "Mine" on July 30th.

The siege of Petersburg was going on. Just in front of where the Ninth regiment lay was a rebel fort. A Pennsylvania regiment, composed largely of experienced coal miners, which, like the Ninth, belonged to General Griffin's brigade of the Ninth Corps, began behind a little knoll and dug a gallery 4½ feet square for 511 feet, till it terminated in two side galleries 23 feet below ground and directly under the fort. Here they placed four tons of powder, and arrangements were made to fire it at 3.30 A. M. on July 30.

Elaborate plans were made for the surprise attack that was to follow, which, it was expected, would result in the capture of the city.

It is generally agreed that the plans were good and success would have been certain had there not been gross incompetency, or worse, in high places.

Burnside, who commanded the Ninth Corps, had three divisions of white troops, commanded respectively by Willcox, Potter and Ledlie, and one division of colored troops commanded by Ferraro. Griffin's Brigade was in Potter's division. Burnside's original plan was to send in the colored troops first, as they were fresher than the white, who had been fighting constantly for more than a month. At the last moment this plan was changed. Between the commanders of the other divisions there was jealousy and bad blood. Burnside weakly allowed them to draw lots to decide who should lead, and the lot fell on Ledlie, the poorest of the three.

As finally agreed, at the moment of the explosion Ledlie's division was to move straight forward, pass through the crater and press on to Cemetery Hill, four hundred yards beyond. As soon as they were out of the way Willcox was to go in on the left and Potter on the right.

The troops were all notified the night before and stood under arms breathlessly awaiting the signal. Three-thirty o'clock came and passed, and minute after minute went by and nothing happened. The fuse had gone out. Volunteers renewed it, and finally, over an hour late, came an earthquake shock, and where the ramparts had stood appeared a yawning chasm, 170 feet long, 60 feet wide and 30 feet deep.

Ledlie remained far in the rear and completely lost his nerve. No one was in command and each subordinate unit acted by itself, without any general direction or co-ordination. His division did not move at all for more than ten minutes, and then paused on the edge of the crater, blocking everything behind. Finally they went in but made only feeble efforts to pass over the other side. The pit became filled with disorganized men who, according to General Horace Porter, "were mixed up with the dead and dying of the enemy, and tumbling aimlessly about or attempting to scramble up the other side. The shouting, screaming and cheering, mingled with the roar of the artillery and the explosion of shells, created a perfect pandemonium, and the crater had become a caldron of hell".

Willcox's division tried to go in on the left and brought up in the pit without accomplishing anything.

Neither Burnside nor any division commander, except Potter, went under fire.

Potter turned the leadership of his division over to Griffin. The latter gained all the glory that was won that day. Leading a column headed by part of his own brigade, he skirted the right of the pit, pushed through an abattis and, encountering the enemy, in a hand-to-hand struggle, he drove

them back through their intrenchments and traverses, took 200 yards of rifle pits and pressed on more than half-way to the top of Cemetery Hill. He had opened up a way, and support was all he needed to go clear through.

But then he found that not only was he getting no help from Ledlie and Willcox, but even Potter was not sending forward the rest of his own division. After long delay, two little regiments came and that was all.

So much delay had occurred that the enemy had recovered from their surprise and now brought to bear the concentrated fire of 110 cannon and 50 mortars, to say nothing of thousands of infantry. Griffin's men were gradually forced back into the crater, which had seemed completely full before.

Then, when the confusion was at its height, Burnside sent in the Colored Division on top of all and made, if possible, the disorder even worse.

It was the hottest day of a Southern summer, with a temperature of 105°. In "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War", a writer says: "The midsummer sun caused waves of moisture, produced by the exhalations of this mass, to rise above the crater. Wounded men died there, begging piteously for water, and soldiers extended their tongues to moisten their parched lips until their tongues seemed to hang from their mouths."

Meanwhile on all pitilessly beat the enemy's fire.

Robbins was there in the thickest of it. He says he did not welcome the arrival of the negroes, but the interposition of their bodies perhaps stopped bullets that otherwise would have killed him. His friend, First Sergeant James H. Ferson, of his company, with whom he had been talking of home just before they went into action, fell dead at his side.

He recalls the appearance of Griffin, which he says was the most magnificent thing he ever beheld in his life. A historian has thus described it: "General Griffin forced his way through the mass of disorganized troops in the crater, climbed to the parapet on the further side and called upon the men to come forward and form and follow him. The few who sprang up bravely to the parapet to join him were nearly every one of them shot dead. He was himself twice hit while standing there, but not to draw blood".

To remain was death or capture. There was only a narrow path for retreat, and this was now commanded by the enemy's concentrated fire. After retreat was ordered by General Grant it was a long time before the order could even reach those for whom it was intended. Messenger after messenger was shot down. When it finally came Griffin sent out, a few at a time, all of his men who dared to try to run the gauntlet, and about two P. M., without any haste, walked out himself, last of all.

Robbins admits that, not having the dignity of a general to maintain, he himself *hastened,* even to the extent of starting without his gun, but, thinking of it *en route,* picked up another equally as good and arrived with complete equipment.

The next day Company G was commanded by a Corporal, and the Ninth Regiment by a Lieutenant. Quite a change since South Mountain!

It is interesting to compare the comments made on the affair by two persons who witnessed it from different angles,—Lieutenant George W. Osgood, of the Sixth New Hampshire, and General U. S. Grant, commanding all the armies of the United States.

The Sixth was engaged but did not enter the crater. Osgood was very

ill but still in camp. He made these entries in his diary, beginning the day of the battle:

"Saturday, July 30, 1864, *was a very warm, uncomfortable day. Enemy's fort blown up and attack made by the negro troops of the Ninth A. C., assisted by the whites. By some mismanagement the thing went by default and we lost largely in killed and wounded, and prisoners, especially the latter. Killed Capt. Crossfield in our regt. Badly wounded Lieut. Upton, Co. F, Capt. Greenleaf, Co. H, slightly, Capt. Ela, Lieut. Hanscom. Sgt. Major badly wounded. Many made prisoners in this Brigade. Wm. Devoe, Co. K, killed. We lost all we gained.*

"Sunday, July 31. *Very warm. Exertions made to bury our dead under flag of truce. Said by some to be unsuccessful. Lieut. Upton died last night. Saw F. Foster. Ninth N. H. V. lost* 98 *more. Among the killed, Capt. Hough commanding the regiment."*

"F. Foster," who gave the news of the Ninth, was J. Frank Foster of Nelson.

Horace Porter, who then was an aide on Grant's staff, tells how the latter, when he heard rumors that things were going wrong, went on foot to the scene of action, attended only by Porter and one orderly, and tried, for a long time in vain, to find someone in charge of it. He says: "General Grant now began to edge his way vigorously to the front through the lines of the assaulting columns as they poured out of the rifle pits and crawled over the obstructions. It was one of the warmest days of the entire summer and even at this hour of the morning the heat was suffocating. The General wore his blue blouse and a pair of blue trousers,—in fact the uniform of a private soldier, except the shoulder straps. None of the men seemed to recognize him and they were no respecters of persons as they shoved and crowded to the front. They little thought that the plainly dressed man who was elbowing his way past so energetically, and whose face was covered with dust and streaked with perspiration, was the chief who had led them successfully from the Wilderness to Petersburg."

At length he surprised Burnside by almost literally dropping down on him in a bombproof and, speaking rapidly and with great vigor, said to him, "The entire opportunity has been lost. There is now no chance of success. Those troops must be immediately withdrawn. It is slaughter to leave them there." This was about nine o'clock in the forenoon, four or five hours before Robbins and Griffin retired.

Later in the day, after long silence, Grant remarked: "Such an opportunity for carrying a fortified line I have never seen and never expect to see again. If I had been a Division Commander or a Corps Commander I would have been at the front giving personal directions on the spot. I believe the men would have performed every duty required of them if they had been properly led and skillfully handled."

He evidently fully agreed with Osgood that there had been "some mismanagement".

At Poplar Grove Church, on September 30th, occurred another disastrous affair that nearly wiped out all that was left of the Ninth Regiment. With

other troops they made an impetuous assault, captured the enemy's outer works and pressed on till they encountered overwhelmingly superior numbers who enveloped both their flanks. The little force made an heroic stand, but before support could come up many were killed or captured. Among the latter was J. Frank Foster. (See his account.) Robbins was close by his side at the time and narrowly escaped his fate. In all one hundred and twenty-four men were lost, together with the State colors, famous as the first ones planted on the ruins of the "Mine". The color-bearer, Corporal Brown, was captured, but not until after he had stripped the flag from the staff and torn it into shreds. The shattered remnant that rallied and continued the battle numbered less than sixty muskets.

There were no other major engagements, but several minor ones, in all of which Robbins took part, and he was also in the Grand Review at Washington on the 23rd of May.

June 10th, 1865, witnessed the last parade of the Ninth New Hampshire. General Griffin addressed the regiment in a few appropriate remarks and the Ninth responded with three rousing cheers for their beloved General.

Robbins was in a score of battles but says he "saw" but one,—that was the charge of the Sixth New Hampshire in front of Fort "Hell", April 2, 1865. In all the others he was too busy to take much notice of anything that was happening, except in his immediate vicinity.

JOSIAH RUFFLE

First Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted April 24, 1861; mustered in May 2, 1861; prevented from going to front with regiment by accidental wound; enlisted in Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry August 24, 1861; transferred to Fourth Regiment Artillery, Company K, Regular Army, November 1, 1862; re-enlisted February 11, 1864; discharged on expiration of term of service February 11, 1867. A resident of Nelson after the war.

He had four brothers with him in the Second Regiment, viz.: Sergeant Benjamin F., who was wounded at Gettysburg; Corporal Charles; George, who was wounded at Second Bull Run; and Samuel, who died in the service of disease. All had excellent records.

JAMES W. RUSSELL

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 28, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862, as Sergeant; appointed Commissary Sergeant November 30, 1864; appointed Second Lieutenant, Company E, January 4, 1865; appointed First Lieutenant, Company I, February 17, 1865; mustered out July 8, 1865. A resident of Nelson before the war. His parents resided there until after its conclusion.

JAMES H. SCOTT

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted August 11, 1862; mustered in September 23, 1862; detailed to Government Secret Service and on duty at Wash-

ington for about a year and a half; then detailed to Commissary Department and stationed at New Orleans, La.: Savannah, Ga., and elsewhere; mustered out July 8, 1865. A resident of Nelson for many years after the war.

GEORGE G. SCRIPTURE

Thirty-eighth Regiment Iowa Infantry, Company C; enlisted August 20, 1862; mustered in November 4, 1862; transferred to Company G of Consolidated Thirty-fourth and Thirty-eighth Regiments, Iowa Infantry, January 1, 1865; mustered out August 15, 1865. Born in Nelson.

When the war broke out he was in Laclede County, southern Missouri, in the employ of Rufus Phillips. (See Minot R. Phillips.) The sentiment of the neighborhood was about equally divided and this led, all through 1861, to great excitement and disorder, attended with destruction of property and bloodshed. When Rufus Phillips and his brother Judson showed themselves southern sympathizers and took up arms, Scripture concluded the place was too hot for him and removed to Iowa, making the long journey on horseback. There he enlisted, as above stated.

He served for three years. To have *survived* in his regiment was a distinction. Only an unusually fine physique and a magnificent constitution enabled him to do so.

The History of the Thirty-eighth Iowa reads like that of the Sixteenth New Hampshire. About the only difference is that the troubles of the former lasted longer.

In June, 1863, it went into camp on the border of a cypress swamp, as part of the army investing Vicksburg, and took part in the siege until the city fell. On July 12th it started on an expedition to Yazoo City and took part in the occupation of that place and the forced march that followed in the direction of Jackson; then returned to Vicksburg, and a few days later moved to Port Hudson, where it remained three weeks. (For the effect of this same Mississippi Campaign on the Sixth New Hampshire, see John Osgood.)

In "Iowa in the Rebellion", L. D. Ingersoll says of the Thirty-eighth: "It was during this period that the effect of the regiment's unfavorable position in the investment of Vicksburg became most plainly evident. The command was almost entirely prostrated, there being at one time only eight officers and twenty enlisted men fit for duty. (Scripture makes the figures even less.) There were many deaths. The encampment was a hospital filled with the sick and dying." Later, it was stationed most of the time at Brownsville, Texas, and the neighborhood of New Orleans, La., till in December, 1864, it ceased to exist as a regiment, and the survivors were transferred to the Thirty-fourth Iowa.

Mr. Ingersoll further says: "The History of the Thirty-eighth is the saddest of all our regiments. It had not been in the service two years when more than three hundred of its enlisted men and a number of officers had died of disease. More than a hundred men and a score of officers during the same period had been discharged on account of ill health. There were long, weary weeks when there were not enough well men to take care of the sick,

and not even enough to bury the dead. After so many had passed through the valley of the shadow of death the organization itself was given up.

"Yet the Thirty-eighth was composed of as gallant men as any who went to the wars. If the regiment did not have an opportunity to achieve brilliant renown in the field, it did have an opportunity to fulfill a no less honored destiny than many whose banners were covered with the names of battles. It did all that men could do. It gave itself entirely up for the good of the service and is fairly entitled to the honor of being called our *'Martyr* Regiment' ".

As a member of the Thirty-fourth Scripture did efficient service in numerous and widely scattered fields.

CHARLES O. SMITH

Eighteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company K; mustered in March 20, 1865; mustered out May 6, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

JAMES E. SMITH

Fifth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; mustered in August 11, 1864; mustered out June 28, 1865. Enlisted from Nelson.

NATHANIEL SMITH

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company C; enlisted September 13, 1862; mustered in October 18, 1862; died of disease June 21, 1863, at New Orleans, La. Born in Nelson.

JOHN STEVENS

First Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; mustered in May 3, 1861; mustered out August 9, 1861; re-enlisted in Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; mustered in November 28, 1861; killed at Second Bull Run, Va., August 29, 1862. Enlisted from Nelson.

Captain Lyman Jackman, historian of the Sixth Regiment, thus describes the death of Corporal Stevens: "Sergeant G. W. Craig, color-bearer, was killed early in the fight, and as he fell, one of the corporals of the color-guard seized the colors and carried them a few minutes, when he, too, was shot down. Then John Stevens, another corporal of the color-guard, took them, and having carried them a short distance, fell, wounded. He was, however, up again in a moment, bearing them bravely forward until another shot laid him low. Even then he continued to hold up the 'old flag,' and would not let it go down, although he knew he had received his death wound and felt his young life to be fast ebbing away. Sergeant J. A. George then took the colors and we passed on. Colonel Griffin, on looking back, saw Corporal Stevens braced against a tree, painfully loading his musket, and bound to give the rebels one more shot before he died. That was the last we ever saw of the brave and noble John Stevens. He belonged to Company E, and enlisted from Nelson. Like hundreds of other noble sons of New Hampshire, he

sleeps in an unknown grave. At the close of the fight Colonel Griffin brought off the colors, or what was left of them, for they were badly riddled by shot."

As to the Battle of Second Bull Run see also the other John Stevens, George W. Osgood and Charles A. Howard.

JOHN STEVENS

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company K; enlisted November 26, 1861; mustered in December 3, 1861; appointed Corporal; discharged for disability at Providence, R. I., March 22, 1863; re-enlisted in First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry March 29, 1865, for one year; mustered out May 6, 1865. A resident of Nelson, after the war, for many years.

He was one of *six* brothers, sons of Captain Henry Stevens, of Stoddard, who made a record of patriotism hard to equal. Sergeant Charles S., Ninth New Hampshire, Company E, was wounded at the Wilderness and captured at Spottsylvania. Henry H., Eighteenth New Hampshire, Company I, died in the service of disease. Daniel W., Sixth New Hampshire, Company F, was shot through the mouth at Petersburg. George W., Sixth New Hampshire, Company K, was severely wounded at Second Bull Run, and Anthony C., Ninth New Hampshire, Company E, was killed at Fredericksburg.

John was one of the original members of the Sixth, enlisting at the age of nineteen. The regiment was organized in Keene, and left for Washington on Christmas Day, 1861. There it was armed with what was known as the Austrian rifle, a muzzle-loading, long-barrelled, heavy piece, with a three-cornered bayonet. Its first great battle was Second Bull Run, August 29, 1862. The following description of it, extracted from the report of the Adjutant-General of New Hampshire, will aid in an understanding of Stevens' personal adventures:

"At three o'clock on the afternoon of that day, the first brigade of Reno's division was brought up and ordered to attack the enemy and drive them from the woods in which they were massed. The brigade was formed with the Second Maryland on the right, the Sixth New Hampshire in the centre and the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania on the left and moved forward in line of battle. Immediately upon entering the woods the command was received with a sharp and murderous fire, under which, however, the Sixth and the Second Maryland pressed steadily forward; but the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania, instead of holding its place in line, gave ground to the right and fell behind the Sixth New Hampshire. The regiment, determined, if possible, to obey the order to 'drive the rebels from the woods,' pushed forward in the most resolute and gallant manner, driving the enemy before them, keeping its line perfect, advancing promptly at each command 'forward' and not a man leaving the ranks, not even to carry off the wounded or to care for the dead. It was a regiment of heroes that day. Crossing an old railroad cut and advancing from one to two hundred yards beyond, it found itself assailed on every side. The woods were very thick, and amid the smoke of battle nothing could be discerned beyond the distance of a few yards. Supposing the left to be supported and protected by others of our own troops, it was

believed that the fire from the left and rear must be from friends. To ascertain the true state of the case, Colonel Griffin seized the colors and advanced in that direction, waving them in the air. The murderous fire with which he was met proved that there were no friends to the Stars and Stripes in that direction. Finding his regiment would be sacrificed unless withdrawn immediately, the Colonel ordered a retreat, and brought off his men with all possible dispatch. Of four hundred and fifty officers and men who went into this engagement, thirty-two were killed, one hundred and ten wounded and sixty-eight were missing; making a total loss of two hundred and ten, or nearly one-half the whole number present for duty. Of the missing, nearly all were either killed or wounded, and the wounded were all captured, as the enemy occupied the ground after the fight. Of twenty officers present on that day, five were killed, six wounded and two captured."

Company K, commanded by Captain Titcomb, was in the center of the regiment, on the right of the colors. At an early stage of the proceedings, Stevens saw Sergeant Clapp, standing beside Titcomb, shot through the top of the head by a bullet, evidently intended for the latter, coming from a rebel sharpshooter in a tree. Climbing the steep side of the railroad cut he advanced steadily through the brush beyond, loading and firing until, when he snapped a cap his gun did not explode. The cartridge had failed to "prime", as frequently happened with the kind of weapon he was using. Carlos Wood, on his left, was just biting off a cartridge and Stevens asked him for a little powder, put it in the nipple and got off the shot. As he did so he heard a cry from Wood, and, turning, saw him toppling over and, more than that, falling on a pile of three other members of the company, all of whom lay there apparently dead. A little beyond lay Lieutenant Fuller, shot through the head with one eye gouged out. Turning to his right there was not a man in sight on the line. He had heard no command to retreat, but as there was no officer left to give orders, and apparently no one but himself left to fight, he concluded it was prudent to retire. On reaching the railroad cut he found it filling with men, most of whom ran along it. He, however, climbed the further side and went back as nearly as possible the way he had come in. On the edge of the woods he found two or three men of his company around his captain, who, not being a strong or a well man, was in a state of collapse. Gradually others gathered, but when the last man came Company K was a pitiful looking squad. Sized according to height, all the big men were gone. As was subsequently ascertained, Henry Taggart, "Abe" Shedd and his brother "Joe" Shedd had been killed. Albert O. Cutter had been captured and George Stevens wounded. The company line from the right had been swept clean, down as far as John Stevens.

His brother not showing up, John went in search of him and finally found him. Though shot through the upper part of the thigh he had managed to crawl out of the woods.

Before the fighting began the regiment had unslung knapsacks and left them behind. The place where they lay was now exposed to heavy fire from the enemies' batteries, but Stevens managed to rescue both his and his brother's. Others were not so fortunate.

That night what was left of the regiment was ordered to support a battery, with which they remained during the heavy fighting of the following

day. From the high ground where they lay fierce charge and countercharge were plainly in view, and the battle was spread out like a great panorama.

Their battery was shelled by those of the enemy, and as they lay on the ground a piece of shell plowed up the earth just between the heads of Stevens and the man next to him.

Expecting to have to charge they piled knapsacks and blankets in the rear, and never had an opportunity to go back for them. Everything was lost, including the "housewives" which mothers, sisters and sweethearts had made for them, and other cherished mementos of home.

Not until they reached Pleasant Valley, seven weeks later, were they again equipped. Meanwhile there was heavy marching and fighting and constant exposure. The clothes of all, officers as well as men, became infected with vermin which, as they had no change of garments and not even a chance to bathe, it was impossible to exterminate.

The Sixth was under fire all day August 30th and until just before midnight when they marched off the field in a drenching rain.

On September 1st they arrived at Chantilly just as the right flank of the Union army had broken and was falling back in confusion, and by their timely assistance checked the retreat and turned the tide of battle.

At South Mountain, September 14, they were engaged again just at the crisis of the battle, and saw General Reno killed at the moment of victory.

Then came the morning of the seventeenth, when began the great Battle of Antietam.

The Sixth had raided a potato field and were trying to cook the somewhat unripe spoil in their tin cups when shells began to fall in their midst, and they had to fall in with no vegetables for breakfast.

They marched in the highway, which led down a hill, and came in sight of Antietam Creek, where they could see other regiments trying in vain to cross. They stopped in a field under the enemy's fire and lay down to wait for orders.

General Sturgis, who commanded their division, came along, and Colonel Griffin sprang up to greet him. Stevens heard Sturgis inquire where Nagle, the Brigade Commander, was, and Griffin said he did not know. Then he asked who is the senior officer and Griffin replied, "I am." There was a little more talk and then Sturgis said, "The only way to take that bridge is to charge it," and a moment later Griffin's great voice rang out "Battalion, attention!"

What followed is part of the familiar history of the Battle of Antietam. The way those two little regiments, the Sixth New Hampshire and the Second Maryland, led by Griffin, charged up to and on to the bridge was one of the finest things that happened on that memorable day.

They went to the bridge. On its entrance was centered the fire of the enemy's batteries, and their strongly entrenched infantry. For the handful of men that were left, to cross meant annihilation, and Griffin ordered them to seek cover.

Stevens followed the Colonel over a Virginia rail fence, beside the road just opposite the bridge head, which offered some cover, though not much protection, and began firing through the rails.

A man fell against him, and Stevens saw that it was his former tentmate, Lyman Richardson, who, as he was aiming, had received a bullet that gashed his arm from wrist to elbow. It was necessary to do something at once to prevent his bleeding to death. Neither had a bandage or even a handkerchief, but Stevens tore off a sleeve of a blouse and managed to bind up the wound.

Then, as he looked around, he was startled as he had been before at Bull Run, to find himself alone. Everyone else had gone farther back behind a little knoll.

He found a bunch of *K* men firing from behind an oak tree and joined them, and a few minutes later saw Sergeant Rand, as he took his turn, receive a ball in the middle of his forehead. Then, when help came, he was in the thick of it as the bridge was rushed, and the fight surged up the bluff on the other side.

At Pleasant Valley, which they reached the latter part of the month, promotions were in order to fill the places of those who had been killed. Candidates for Corporal had a competitive examination, each being required to drill the company. Stevens won out, and his warrant was dated October 1, 1862.

The Sixth had suffered greatly from disease. At one time malignant fever and measles carried off sixty men in as many days; at another "black dysentery" unfitted six hundred for duty; and the other disorders peculiar to camp and field had done their deadly work.

Thus far Stevens had been strong and well, but on the march from Pleasant Valley to Fredericksburg he succumbed to enteric trouble, as sooner or later did practically every other member of the Army of the Potomac.

He was sent to the hospital at Falmouth, thence to Aquia Creek, and from there to Portsmouth Grove, R. I., where the surgeons decided that he would never again be fit for duty and ordered his honorable discharge.

As above noted, however, he re-enlisted in the First Cavalry, but the war ended so soon after that there was not an opportunity for active service.

Of the six brothers who went out two had given their lives and the other four had gone to the limit, fighting as long as they had any strength to fight, without a blemish on the reputation of any one of them.

As regards Second Bull Run, see also what is said of the other John Stevens, George W. Osgood and Charles A. Howard. As regards Antietam, see John Osgood.

ALBERT H. TAFT

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted July 29, 1862; mustered in August 6, 1862, as Corporal; discharged for disability November 13, 1863; volunteered in order to fill the place of his brother Edward N. Taft, who was killed at Williamsburg. Born in Nelson.

At the breaking out of the war he was a student at Kimball Union Academy, fitting for Dartmouth College. When his elder brother, Edward N., enlisted in the Second Regiment, Albert also tried to do so, but Captain Tileston A. Barker refused to take him, saying that one from a family was enough, and earnestly advised him to return to his studies and think no more about it.

Edward N. was killed at Williamsburg, May 5, 1862, the first Nelson man to die on the battlefield, and Captain Barker sent the news back home. His letter reached Nelson four days later.

The New Hampshire *Sentinel* of May 29, 1862, under the heading, "A Patriotic Response", stated that the following letter had been received at Williamsburg:

> "Nelson, May 9, 1862, Captain Barker; Dear Sir:—Today we received intelligence that my brother Edward Taft had been murdered by the rebels. I claim the privilege of occupying his place in your company. Will you not accept me? Captain, I must go. Yours,
>
> ALBERT TAFT."

Captain Barker having again advised against it, Albert then announced to his father his intention of enlisting in the Ninth Regiment, which was about being organized. Believing him physically unfit to endure the hardships of a soldier's life, his father at first refused to give his consent, but finally said: "If you go I shall expect you to do your duty. I would rather know that you had gone with your brother than that you should come back without an honorable record."

The examining surgeon was reluctant to pass him, but finally he had his way and, as Corporal, did good service at South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, at the same time becoming one of the most beloved men in the regiment.

His health was fairly good until the great outbreak of measles in the spring of 1863, when he was one of the first to succumb. His recovery was slow and a bad cough threatened more serious trouble.

His discharge for disability, however, was even then against his wishes, and was, in fact, forced upon him. He refused to be denied the privilege of serving his country further, and returned to do most efficient work for the Christian Commission.

The Ninth, though it had then been in the field less than a month, on the whole behaved well at the great Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862. After engagement elsewhere in the morning, it came to the Stone Bridge just about the time the passage was forced (see John Osgood and John Stevens), and followed the Sixth New Hampshire across.

Burnside's corps, of which it was a part, fought all the afternoon on the bluffs beyond, and finally captured the Heights of Sharpsburg. Then the enemy were strongly reinforced by the arrival, by way of the fords of the Potomac at Shepardstown, of Hill's division of Stonewall Jackson's Corps, who attacked on the left flank, and Burnside was driven back. Just about sundown the Ninth was rushed to the assistance of a portion of their division who were in trouble, but failed to stem the tide. Their regimental history says: "We fell back to the Creek under a perfect shower of grape and canister * * * few of us came over dry shod. * * * It was late at night before we again got organized." They were then back on the same side of the creek from which they had started. On the 18th they were moved about to various positions, and on the 19th marched several miles toward Harper's Ferry. Meanwhile the enemy crossed the Potomac at Shepardstown and made their escape.

The battle line was about ten miles long, and ran through country much of which was rough and wooded.

It is necessary to bear these details in mind to understand Taft's personal adventures. Owing to the darkness and confusion, and perhaps as much as anything, to the fact that from lack of sleep and food joined with physical exertion beyond his strength, he was nearly in a state of collapse, he failed to retreat when the others did, and was left stranded somewhere on the wooded heights, at best between the opposing forces, and quite likely within the lines of the enemy.

Little expecting that any eye but his would ever see it, he wrote the following in his diary. The first paragraph was evidently written just before the battle opened, and the rest later.

> *"Sept.* 17, 1862. *Laid on our arms all night. The enemy opened on us early this morning with their batteries. Ours have pretty much silenced them now. We expect warm work before night.*
>
> *We* HAVE *had warm work today and enough of it, too. I have not heard from my people for a long time. Wish I could hear from Hardy. Don't know how sick he is. They cannot hear from me at present. I am now away from our regiment. When we broke I got separated, and soon after fell in with two of our company, Davis and O'Reilly. We are lost, sure.*
>
> *Sept.* 18. *Feel somewhat the worse for wear. Got exhausted in our retreat. Forded the creek and slept in my wet clothes. Dragged out a few miles. Learned nothing of our regiment yet. Camped in the woods. Quite rainy. Feel pretty well used up. Don't know, but I will be sick yet.*
>
> *Sept.* 19. *Stayed in the woods all day. Went out just at night. Bought some bread. Feel a little better. Pretty weak. The rebels have crossed the river. Our army is on the move. Have heard nothing of our regiment yet.*
>
> *Sept.* 20. *Started to find our regiment this morning. Moved up the creek as far as the bridge. How different from the first time we passed. Then the air was full of spiteful bullets and noble men were falling all about us. Now all is calm. Occasionally a squad of straggling soldiers like ourselves passes. The curious and the relic hunters, with now and then individuals of a more economical turn, are searching the woods and fields. Often we pass groups of mounds that mark the spot where the firing was sharpest, and the brave were slain. We noticed three graves side by side with boards erected at their head, bearing the names of three of our boys. Poor fellows. They have passed through their earthly campaign and have nothing more to fear. Death has freed them from the sad scenes which we now behold. Many of the enemies' dead are not yet buried. Dead horses, guns, equipment and clothing are scattered about promiscuously. After viewing these scenes till we were sad and heartsick, we moved on in the direction of our regiment. Came into camp just at dark."*

"Sept. 21. A beautiful Sabbath. Attended divine services in the morning. In the evening we had a very interesting prayer meeting. I never felt the worth of religion like I do now. What else can afford a soldier comfort and consolation."

The same diary contains this laconic account of the battle of Fredericksburg (see William B. Robbins and Amos A. Wyman):

"December 13, 1862. After breakfast, hauled alongside the river and waited till about two o'clock. Then filed up through the cross streets by company and formed in line of battle in the field back of the city. Marched in under a dreadful fire. Fought till dark and returned to the city."

Being of a deeply sympathetic nature, Taft frequently visited the hospitals trying to alleviate the suffering of their inmates. Among others, his diary has this entry:

"October 28, 1862. Called at the hospital. Oh, 'tis cruel to treat sick men so. There found Braman Wilson, but just alive. Poor fellow. He will soon be at rest."

On December 23, 1862, he wrote:

"Passed by the hospital tents. Enough to sicken one of war." (See Amos A. Wyman and Minot R. Phillips.)

On January 7, 1863, he was himself carried to those same tents. He met there Sergeant (afterwards Captain) Oscar D. Robinson, of his company, who pays this tribute to him:

"Comrade Taft was patriotic to the very core, and, tho his health was not robust, he performed excellent service during the severe campaign which included the battles of South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, in all of which battles he bravely participated. His unfailing good nature and quaint humor made him popular with all his comrades of Company E, and no one ever had a harsh word or a criticism for 'Corporal Taft.' Soon after the battle of Fredericksburg he fell ill of the measles, as did many others of the regiment. Hospital accommodations were most wretched and fever patients, pneumonia and measle patients were crowded together in the same tent, with only a few pine boughs between them and the Virginia mud on which they lay as closely as they could be placed. I was myself lying sick unto death of fever and unable to raise my head, but when I saw by the light of the smoky lantern Comrade Taft brought in in a blanket one night by four men and dumped down in the charnel tent, I instantly felt a sense of relief, tho why I cannot tell, unless I felt that his presence would make the horrid place a little less horrid. Many died from cold, exposure and lack of care, but Corporal Taft's optimism and cheerful disposition carried him safely through, and he soon returned convalescent to his company tent.

No circumstance could be so discouraging or so gloomy that Taft would not afford some relief by a genial word, a comical remark or a kind act.

When the Ninth Corps was ordered to Newport News, about March, 1863, Corporal Taft with many other convalescents was sent to the General Hospital at Washington. I think he never returned to the regiment, tho he performed camp and guard duty at Concord, N. H., for some time before his discharge.

He was a good soldier, and had his health been equal to the hardships of the service he would undoubtedly have received promotion through the various non-commissioned grades to that of a commissioned officer.

As a student, Mr. Taft was talented, witty and companionable, and a general favorite with his schoolmates, and especially with his classmates."

EDWARD N. TAFT

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company A; enlisted April 25, 1861, for three months; not mustered in, paid by State; re-enlisted May 22, 1861, for three years; mustered in May 31, 1861; killed at Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862. Born in Nelson.

He was the first Nelson man killed in action. Writing to Taft's father to inform him of the event, Tileston A. Barker, Captain of his company, said: "He was a noble man, a good soldier and fought bravely to the last." See Albert H. Taft and Charles A. Howard.

CHARLES A. TARBOX

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted September 12, 1862; mustered in October 24, 1862; mustered out August 20, 1863; enlisted from Nelson. Also, December 10, 1864; paid $300 to secure the enlistment in Nelson's quota of John Kelly of Norwalk, Conn.

The call for three hundred thousand nine-months' men came at the darkest hour of the war. Nelson was already mourning her dead. Her wounded and her sick were in many a hospital, and wrecks of humanity had returned to tell their tales of suffering. No more enlistments were to be had from youthful enthusiasm and love of adventure. The only appeals that met with response were those made to pure patriotism and sober sense of duty.

Nine men were needed to fill the town's quota and save a draft. Ten volunteered, viz.: G. Washington Bancroft, Daniel O. Beverstock, Jeremiah Foster, Frank B. Hardy, George G. Hardy, Hiram Holt, George S. Petts, Joseph M. Richardson, Charles A. Tarbox and Orson C. Tolman. All were from highly respected families,—the very best of Nelson's citizens. Seven were married (all except Bancroft, Beverstock and Tolman), and three, Foster, Holt and George Hardy, were over military age. Holt was rejected by the examining surgeon. All the others enlisted in Company G, where they found still another who was Nelson born, Albert A. Buxton.

The first detachment of the regiment, including all the Nelson men, except Tolman, left New York Harbor the first week in December, 1862, for an unknown destination. They subsequently found that they were part of the army of General N. P. Banks, intended for service along the Mississippi River in Louisiana. On December 20th they reached New Orleans, and were sta-

tioned seven miles from there at Camp Parapet. Here, on January 1, 1863, they welcomed Tolman, who had come on a second transport. After several changes of position in that neighborhood, on March 5, 1863, they moved up the river to Baton Rouge, and took part in active operations, lasting about six weeks, involving long and exhausting marches in a difficult country under weather conditions most unfavorable. On March 17th occurred what is known in the annals of the regiment as "The Great Mud March," much of the way through tangled woods and flooded lowlands, ranking well with some of the most famous forced marches of the Army of the Potomac, and, a few days later, they were moved almost continuously for about twenty hours.

On April 18th they embarked to co-operate in an attack on Fort Burton, situated at Butte a la Rose on the Atchafalaya River, at a confluence of Bayous, about seventy-five miles above Breshear. The fort was captured on April 20th and then, for another six weeks, the regiment remained there surrounded by dense forests and impenetrable swamps.

A more pestilential location for anyone could hardly be imagined, and it was particularly dangerous for the unacclimated men of the Northern hills, already weakened by heavy campaigning. The whole regiment became ill and, though only three died there, the seeds were planted for the disaster that followed.

The waters in the bayous and pools commenced to dry up, uncovering to a tropical sun decayed vegetable matter, from which arose a stench almost insufferable. Disease took many and hideous forms. Some became covered with burning and painful eruptions; some were yellow as saffron; some were shaking with ague, and others bloated with dropsy. Some of the strongest who still remained on duty, speedily shrank to half their normal weight. Furthermore, during most of this period, they had no surgeon or other professional medical attendant, and consequently were obliged to care for themselves as best they could.

As a result of the sanguinary battle before Port Hudson, on May 27th, the Department Commander was compelled to call to his support every available Union soldier in Louisiana, and on May 30th orders came to abandon Butte a la Rose. This was done only barely in time to avoid capture by the advancing enemy.

George G. Hardy and Orson C. Tolman were then in a very bad condition, and Tarbox was detailed by the Colonel to take care of them. He helped them on to the boat, and at Brashear they were put ashore and later forwarded to New Orleans, where, subsequently, Hardy died and Tolman was discharged for physical disability.

The rest of the Nelson men went on by rail as far as Algiers, where another stop was made to dispose of the sick, and Frank B. Hardy, Petts, Beverstock and Richardson were left behind. Of the original nine, only Tarbox and Bancroft were left to continue the journey to Port Hudson.

Taking boat again they went on and disembarked at Springfield Landing. Here a courier met them with orders to proceed to the headquarters of General Banks instead of to the trenches. This was due to a telegram to Banks from General W. H. Emery, commanding the defenses of New Orleans, to the effect that "The Sixteenth New Hampshire can at best muster for service only a few skeletons."

From the entire regiment there were then left about two hundred men. They were assigned to guard duty over the arsenal of the besieging army. A detail, one of whom was Tarbox, was made to take prisoners back to New Orleans, but this reduction was not as great as that caused by new prostrations from disease. On the morning of June 7th, a week after their arrival, they could only muster seventy-five fit for duty. There were daily deaths and one day six were buried. Some attempting to walk to the surgeon's tent fell dead in their tracks, and others died in their tents, unattended and without uttering a groan. The Regimental History has the following account of the condition of affairs that speedily developed: "At last we were permitted to come out of those terrible swamps upon a fair field and, with an enthusiasm which I have never seen equalled, our boys took their place in line and fairly courted a soldier's death. But it was too late. The fatal poison had done its work. Daily and hourly our men sickened and died. Every morning they were found dead in their blankets. At roll call while answering feebly to their names they would fall down and die in their tracks. Time and again I saw them all accoutred for battle, with eyes to the front and muskets in hand, stagger and sink to the ground where they had been standing, as dead as if shot in their tracks. Once when a funeral squad had fired the last volley over the grave of a comrade one of the squad moved forward, sank upon the fresh mound of his dead comrade and breathed his last. Another grave was hastily dug, another volley fired, and that comrade was covered from sight."

Into this scene of misery now came Beverstock and Richardson slightly improved from their short stay in hospital.

On July 2nd what was left of Company G, including Tarbox, Richardson and Beverstock, were part of the provost-guard on duty at Springfield Landing, which was the depot of supplies for the whole army. A detachment of the One Hundred and Sixty-second New York, on the picket line, mistook a regiment of Texas "Bushwhackers" for Federal Cavalry, allowed them to pass and suddenly the provost-guard were surrounded. When, after a brisk fight, the enemy were driven off, they took with them about twenty-five prisoners, one of whom was Tarbox, marched them five or six miles, robbed them of what they had of value and then let them go.

Port Hudson surrendered on July 8th, and the Sixteenth entered it on July 10th.

Later in the month Frank B. Hardy and Petts, who, after being for a time in hospital in New Orleans, had been sent to Key West as guard over captured rebel officers, rejoined their comrades, and on August 1st the regiment was gathered together and started up the river by boat bound for home.

At almost every stopping place between Port Hudson, La., and Cairo, Ill., for example, at Naches, Vicksburg, Helena and Memphis, the dead were buried and the sick put ashore.

At Vicksburg, Tarbox helped into the hospital Bancroft, whose parting words were, "Tell the folks I shall be home soon." He died there a few days later.

At Cairo they changed to train, and at almost every city a detail went to cemetery and hospital.

Petts was left at Mound City, Ill. Beverstock was very sick, but managed to last till he could enter a hospital at Concord.

In the Regimental History, it is truly said:

"Our dead lie buried from Port Hudson to Cairo—nay in the soil of every State from Louisiana to New Hampshire they sleep their last sleep."

When they arrived at Concord the only ones left able to visit Nelson on a six days' furlough prior to muster out were Foster, Frank B. Hardy, Richardson and Tarbox.

According to the records of the Adjutant-General, notwithstanding the great number discharged for physical disability, the number of dead, from disease, prior to muster out, was two hundred and ten. Within a few months afterwards there were many more, estimated by some as high as one hundred. Comparatively few came back without permanent impairment of health.

The death rate can only be appreciated when it is compared with that of other regiments. For example, among the original members of the Second New Hampshire, in three years of service there were seventy-five deaths from disease, and in the Third New Hampshire only seventy-four. These regiments were each larger than the Sixteenth. Considering time of service, the rate of the Sixteenth was nearly ten times that of the Second or Third.

There was nothing equal to it among the other New Hampshire regiments, but there were similar tragedies in the service. See, for example, the account of the Thirty-eighth Iowa, to which George G. Scripture belonged.

JAMES K. P. TAYLOR

One Hundred and Eighth Regiment New York Infantry, Company A; enlisted July 19, 1862; appointed Sergeant; in engagements at Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Morton's Ford, Wilderness, Laurel Hill, Spottsylvania, Totopotomy Creek, Jones House Creek, Cold Harbor, First Hatchers Run, Second Hatchers Run, High Bridge and Farmsville; also at Lee's surrender; wounded at Gettysburg July 3, 1863; again at Laurel Hill on May 10, 1864; and a third time, seriously, by a minie ball in left shoulder at Cold Harbor June 3, 1864; rejoined regiment before Petersburg in September, 1864; mustered out May 28, 1865. Born in Nelson.

FRANK THURSTON

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted December 26, 1863; transferred to Company E, Sixth New Hampshire Infantry, June 1, 1865; appointed Corporal July 1, 1865; mustered out July 17, 1865. A resident of Nelson after the war.

The History of the Ninth Regiment at page 519 says:

"Nothing was seen or heard of the enemy (August 19, 1864), except that Private Frank Thurston, of Company E, who had been doing picket duty during the night, captured two stragglers from the enemy's line. Thurston, who was barely sixteen years old, had enlisted from Peterboro in the latter part of December, 1863, and being a brave, manly little fellow, had become very

popular with his comrades. He heard a rustling in the bushes, boldly challenged the intruder and found that it was a couple of confederate stragglers. He ordered them to throw down their arms and marched his prisoners in triumph to the corporal of the guard."

ORSON C. TOLMAN

Sixteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company G; enlisted October 6, 1862; mustered in October 24, 1862; discharged for disability at New Orleans, La., July 13, 1863. Born in Nelson. (See Charles A. Tarbox.)

GEORGE L. TRAXLER

Forty-eighth Regiment Ohio Infantry, Company G; enlisted October 24, 1861; in engagements at Shilo April 6 and 7, 1862; siege of Corinth, Miss., from April 29 to May 29, 1862; Chickasaw Bluffs, Miss., December, 1862; Arkansas Post, Miss., January 11, 1863; Port Gibson, Miss., May 1, 1863; Champion Hills, Miss., May 16, 1863; Black River Bridge, Miss., May 17, 1863; assault and siege of Vicksburg May 18 to July 4, 1863; Jackson, Miss., July 7, 1863; Mansfield, La., April 6, 1864; siege of Blakely, Ala., April 2-9, 1864; mustered out May 9, 1866. A resident of Nelson after the war.

WILLIAM ORVILLE UPTON

First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry, Company A; enlisted March 6, 1865, for three years; mustered out July 15, 1865, on account of the end of the war. A resident of Nelson for many years after the war.

HARLAN P. WARDWELL

First Regiment Massachusetts Cavalry, Company F; mustered in August 14, 1862; discharged on expiration of term of service, November 7, 1864. A resident of Nelson before the war.

Wardwell's company, being one of unusual excellence, was, soon after its enlistment, detailed as personal escort and bodyguard of Major-General Fitz John Porter, then commanding the Fifth Army Corps. They seem to have remained with him continuously until November 13, 1862, when they were transferred to perform similar duty for Major-General Joseph Hooker (Fighting Joe), with whom they remained until February 26, 1863. During a portion of this time Hooker commanded the Fifth Corps, and after January 26, 1863, was Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Potomac.

In August, 1863, Wardwell was detailed to headquarters, in the transportation department, with the title of "Brigade Wagoner," and remained in such service until August 31, 1864.

LYMAN E. WARDWELL

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company H; enlisted September 6, 1861; mustered in September 17, 1861; appointed Corporal June 1, 1863; captured July 2, 1863, at

the Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.; exchanged; mustered out September 16, 1864. Enlisted from Nelson.

After capature at Gettysburg Corporal Wardwell was marched to Richmond, at a speed up to the limit of human endurance, and imprisoned at Belle Isle for about six months. In the reports of the battle he was in the list of missing and not till after Thanksgiving did his relatives know of his whereabouts. From a weight of one hundred and eighty pounds he was starved down to ninety-five, and also suffered from scurvy and became so weak he could not stand. Following the usual policy, he was selected for exchange on the theory that he was about to die, and therefore would be of no further use to the Northern cause. He was dragged by the heels on to the boat that was to take him to Annapolis, and not till he had been there some days did he care much whether he lived or not. His recovery was slow and he never could do any more regular duty, but was detailed to the kitchen of the hospital until his time expired.

OLIN N. WARDWELL

First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry, Company F; enlisted March 8, 1865, for one year; mustered out July 15, 1865, on account of end of war. Born in Nelson.

Young Olin was sorely disappointed that Lee's surrender compelled him to sheathe his sword so soon after he first drew it. He had been anxious to get into the war ever since it started, especially after his older brothers Harlan and Lyman went to the front, but one thing or another had prevented. The principal cause of delay was perhaps the fact that he was only twelve years old when Sumter was fired on,—having been born May 16, 1848, the day the first train of cars ran into Keene.

No one would pay any attention to his aspirations until the fall of 1864 when he offered his services to Darius Farwell, First Selectman of Nelson, and the latter agreed to consider the matter. However, on Farwell's calling on Wardwell's stepfather, Gen. Samuel Griffin, to see what he thought about it, he found the boy just coming down with typhoid fever, which rendered him helpless for the next two months. Finally, the following March, at the mature age of sixteen, he accomplished his purpose,—and then the war ended in April.

GEORGE W. WARREN

Sixth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company E; enlisted November 11, 1861; mustered in November 28, 1861; died in service of disease at Saterlee General Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., January 2, 1862. A resident of Nelson before the war, and included in town's quota.

FRANCIS WELLES

Twenty-fifth Regiment Connecticut Infantry, Company H; mustered in August 30, 1862; honorably discharged August 26, 1863. A resident of Nelson for many years after the war.

SAMUEL B. WESTON

First Regiment New England Cavalry, Company M; mustered in December 24, 1861; promoted Sergeant; promoted First Sergeant; wounded January 18, 1863, near Middleburgh, Va.; discharged for disability January 22, 1864. A resident of Nelson before the war, and included in town's quota.

EDWARD H. WETHERBEE

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted December 8, 1863; mustered out July 8, 1865. Born in Nelson.

VIRGIL I. WHEELER

Eleventh Regiment Infantry, U. S. Regular Army, Company B; enlisted September 3, 1861; died September 22, 1862, near Sharpsburg, Md., of wounds received in the action at the ford of the Potomac near Shepardstown, W. Va., September 20, 1862. Born in Nelson.

AUGUSTUS C. WHITE

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company K; enlisted December 8, 1863; mustered out May 22, 1865. Born in Nelson.

GILMAN E. WHITE

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company A; enlisted May 22, 1861; mustered in May 31, 1861; died in the service of disease at Jersey City, N. J., February 20, 1862. Born in Nelson.

GEORGE T. WHITNEY

Thirty-fifth Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, Company F; mustered in August 19, 1862; died in the service of disease at Annapolis, Md., March 12, 1865. Born in Nelson.

LEONARD F. WHITNEY

Fourteenth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company D; enlisted March 9, 1865, for one year; mustered out July 8, 1865. Born in Nelson. A brother of George T. Whitney and a tent mate of George A. Howard.

ARA M. WILSON

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company A; enlisted August 25, 1862; died in the service of disease at Point Lookout, Md., September 3, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

EDWARD E. WILSON

Second Regiment, Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company H; mustered in December 7, 1863; died a prisoner at Charleston, South Carolina, October 6, 1864. Born in Nelson.

OWEN A. WILSON

Second Regiment, Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company H; mustered in December 7, 1863; died a prisoner at Charleston, South Carolina, October 6, 1864. Born in Nelson.

In "Massachusetts in the War", page 732, James L. Bowen, speaking of the Regiment to which the brothers Edward E. and Owen A. Wilson belonged, says:

"Companies G and H were sent to form a part of the garrison of Plymouth, N. C. The fate of these companies was the tragic chapter in the history of the regiment. At the capture of the place by the confederates on the 20th of April following they were made prisoners of war. Some 275 went into captivity, and they experienced the utmost horrors of the prison pens. Captain Sampson and possibly one or two others escaped, but so deadly were the ravages of disease, starvation and exposure that when, in the spring of 1865, the survivors were exchanged and returned to the regiment, only 35 came back of more than 270 who had been captured."

CHARLES H. WORTH

Second Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company B; enlisted September 2, 1861; mustered in September 9, 1861; wounded severely August 29, 1862, at Second Bull Run, Va.; appointed Corporal May 1, 1863; killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

Of excellent character, pleasing personality, and military training from service in the regular army, he was well fitted to become an officer, and a commission was offered him, but unusual modesty prevented its acceptance.

His comrades speak of him as almost an ideal soldier. (See Charles A. Howard and George W. Osgood.)

AMOS A. WYMAN

Ninth Regiment New Hampshire Infantry, Company I; enlisted July 26, 1862; mustered in August 15, 1862; wounded severely at Fredericksburg, Va., December 13, 1862; discharged on account of wounds March 19, 1863. Enlisted from Nelson.

He thus tells his experiences—"I was at South Mountain 19 days after leaving Concord, and the first order we had was to charge bayonets. We never stopped until we reached the top. It was September 14th, 1862. September 17th was in Antietam where I saw the Lieutenant Colonel stand by my side, and borrow one of the private's guns to shoot a Johnny in a tree across the creek. He shot two and then got shot in the shoulder and had to go to the rear. In one charge we made, on my left side George Fox was shot and dropped dead, the ball passing through his bowels. From there we went into camp at Pleasant Valley, Maryland. When we left there we went on a march 26 days in succession, through Harpers Ferry and up the Potomac River, to where we crossed on pontoons into Virginia, when the Johnnys

burnt the bridge. We went the whole length of the Shenandoah Valley never stopping until we arrived at Fredericksburg, Virginia, and there we lay on our oars for two weeks waiting for pontoons to come so we could cross the river. We could see the enemy fortifying day and night for two weeks. One day when they were putting the pontoons across the Rappahannock River opposite the city, the sharpshooters killed every man that showed his head, until our 150 pieces of artillery opposite the houses on the river, let go at them, when they dusted out of there mighty quick. I never heard such cannonading in all my life. I thought the heavens and earth were coming down. About dark that night we crossed the pontoons into the city and we were allowed no light that night. I found some dried peaches and a little brass kettle. The next day we were moved outside the city and came to a halt, so I thought it a good time to put my peaches a-stewing. I went into a little house on the bank of the river and got some laths that the cannonballs had knocked off, and I had just stepped out of the house when another cannonball went crashing through. You ought to have seen the soldiers hustle out of that house. I then put my peaches to cooking and had just got them done and had a good meal of peaches and hard tack when the order came to fall in. We marched a little way and stood in line of battle with the Colonel in front of his regiment with sword drawn to charge up to the front. The aides came galloping down and told the Colonel, 'For God's sake, make your men lie down'. Then came the order to charge up to the stone wall on the heights. When about half way up, there was so much shot and shell in the air, that a piece of shell struck my bayonet in my belt and broke it, and drove a piece two inches long into my thigh. At the same time it made a hole in my overcoat about fifteen inches across. I could stand only with the aid of my gun until some little time after, when three of my company discovered my situation and came and cut my belt and threw my gun away. I told them I wanted them (belt and gun) with me, but they said I would not want them any more. Then they took me and carried me into a freight house back of the city, which was the worst sight I ever witnessed. The ambulances were carrying the wounded off the field all night, and what they didn't get off the field froze in the mud. I don't remember whether it was the next night or the night after that I was carried across the river on a board, and then the ambulance took me to Aquia Creek, where we lay on the ground two weeks. There two large surgeons got on to me and held me while they lanced my wound and then took a pair of shears and cut the flesh till they found the bayonet piece, and then they pulled it out. I lay in the water in my tent two hours one night and caught cold, so I spit blood six weeks after going to the Lincoln Hospital. As soon as they got the wounded out of the city the troops got out of there mighty quick. I kept running down at the Hospital, so they sent for my father to come after me, and he stayed with me two weeks before he could get me so I could sit up, and then he got me home, but I didn't think I could live any time, but here I am a Tax Collector at Hillsboro, N. H., for the last 14 years. I shall be 75 years old the 20th of April next. I was at South Mountain, Antietam, White Sulphur Springs and Fredericksburg."

As to the Fredericksburg battle see William B. Robbins. As to the hospitals see Minot R. Phillips and Albert H. Taft.

MANLY R. YARDLEY

First Regiment New Hampshire Cavalry, Company K; enlisted and mustered in February 23, 1864; wounded at White Oak Swamp, Va., June 13, 1864; appointed Bugler January 1, 1865; mustered out July 16, 1865. Born in Nelson.

Young Yardley, a well grown, high spirited lad, not being able to obtain his parents' consent, ran away and enlisted at the age of fifteen, making an excellent soldier.

His wound at White Oak Swamp was a quite serious one in the left arm, disabling him for a month. Later he had two horses shot under him and was slightly wounded in the right leg. His narrowest escape was in June, 1865, at Leesburg, Md., when a member of a detail of thirty men looking up government horses. As they passed through the village, the Captain dropped behind to speak to a citizen, and Yardley as bugler waited for him. Just then a guerrilla came out of an alley and emptied a revolver at the latter from a distance of only a few yards. Of the six shots one hit his horse, one lodged in the blankets under the saddle, one went through his hat, another through his collar, and the other two barely missed. When the outlaw was captured, after a pursuit of about two miles, the Captain said that if they forwarded him to Washington it would be a case for hanging, or a firing squad, and suggested that Yardley finish him then and there. The latter, however, declined as it seemed too much like murder.

GENERAL OFFICER

SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN

* * * * * *

FIRST NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

EDWIN P. HUNT, Company G.
JOSIAH RUFFLE, Company G.
See Second New Hampshire Infantry and Regular Army.
JOHN STEVENS, Company G.
See Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.

* * * * * *

SECOND NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

RUFUS ATWOOD, Company A.
SILAS L. BLACK, Company A.
JAMES W. FELT, Company A and Company G.
SUMNER P. FISHER, Company B.
SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN, Company B.
See Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.
CHARLES A. HOWARD, Company B.
HOSEA B. MOULTON, Company B.
PHINEAS A. PARKER, Company D.
EDWIN RICHARDSON, Company B.
JAMES F. RICHARDSON, Company G.
LEONARD E. ROBBINS, Company G.
JOSIAH RUFFLE, Company A.
See First New Hampshire Infantry and Fourth Artillery, Regular Army.
EDWARD N. TAFT, Company A.
LYMAN E. WARDWELL, Company H.
AUGUSTUS C. WHITE, Company K.
GILMAN E. WHITE, Company A.
ARA M. WILSON, Company A.
CHARLES H. WORTH, Company B.

* * * * * *

THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

EDWARD B. HOLT, Company E.
MARQUIS L. HOLT, Company E.
ALPHONSO E. OSBORN, Company I.
ABNER W. OSGOOD, Company E.

* * * * * *

FOURTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

DAVID C. OWEN, Company C.

* * * * * *

FIFTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

JAMES E. SMITH, Company G.

* * * * * *

SIXTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

SYLVESTER C. ABBOTT, Company E.
ELLIOT J. BLODGETT, Company E.
HENRY L. BLODGETT, Company E.
FALIS H. CASTINE, Company E.
ALBERT CRAM, Company I.
See Ninth New Hampshire Infantry and Sixteenth New Hampshire Infantry.
JOHN A. CUMMINGS, Company E.
See First New Hampshire Cavalry.
HENRY C. FLAGG, Company G.
CHARLES F. GIBSON, Company K.
SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN, Lieut.-Col. and Col.
See Second New Hampshire Infantry.
HARLAN P. KNIGHT, Company E.
SAMUEL G. KNIGHT, Company E.
GEORGE W. OSGOOD, Company K.
JOHN OSGOOD, Company K.
JOHN STEVENS, Company E.
See First New Hampshire Infantry.
JOHN STEVENS, Company K.
See First New Hampshire Cavalry.
FRANK THURSTON, Company E.
See Ninth New Hampshire Infantry.
GEORGE W. WARREN, Company E.

* * * * * *

NINTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

VARANES C. ATWOOD, Company G.
SAMUEL OSCAR BROWN, Company G.
ALBERT CRAM, Company I.
See Sixteenth New Hampshire Infantry and Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.
J. FRANK FOSTER, Company I.
PARKER HART, Company I.
CLEMENT S. HOLT, Company G.
SYLVANUS J. KENNISTON, Company I.
FRANCIS M. LOVELAND, Company I.
MINOT R. PHILLIPS, Company I.
WILLIAM B. ROBBINS, Company G.
ALBERT H. TAFT, Company E.
FRANK THURSTON, Company E.
See Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.
AMOS A. WYMAN, Company I.

* * * * * *

ELEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

HENRY D. REED, Company I.

* * * * * *

THIRTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

CORTIES S. OSBORN, Company G.
DANIEL W. OSBORN, Company G.

* * * * * *

FOURTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

JOHN BAHAN, Company G.
SYLVESTER BLODGETT, Company G.
THOMAS BURNS, Company G.
CALVIN K. DAY, Company G.
JOHN T. FARWELL, Company G.
GEORGE A. HOWARD, Company D.
HENRY E. OSBORN, Company G.
LUCIUS PARKER, Company G.
JAMES W. RUSSELL, Companies G, E and I.
JAMES H. SCOTT, Company G.
EDWARD H. WETHERBEE, Company B.
LEONARD F. WHITNEY, Company D.

* * * * * *

SIXTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

G. WASHINGTON BANCROFT, Company G.
DANIEL O. BEVERSTOCK, Company G.
See Eighteenth New Hampshire Infantry.
ALBERT A. BUXTON, Company G.
ALBERT CRAM, Company I.
See Ninth New Hampshire Infantry and Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.
JEREMIAH FOSTER, Company G.
FRANK B. HARDY, Company G.
GEORGE G. HARDY, Company G.
GEORGE S. PETTS, Company G.
JOSEPH M. RICHARDSON, Company G.
HORACE W. ROBBINS, Company C.
NATHANIEL SMITH, Company C.
CHARLES A. TARBOX, Company G.
ORSON C. TOLMAN, Company G.

* * * * * *

EIGHTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

MILAN W. ATWOOD, Company F.
ALFRED E. BARROWS, Company G.
DANIEL O. BEVERSTOCK, Company F.
See Sixteenth New Hampshire Infantry.
EDWIN T. DAVIS, Company F.
HENRY J. BISSELL (Knowlton), Company F.
JOHN Q. LANE, Company B.
CHARLES O. SMITH, Company K.
NATHANIEL SMITH, Company C.

* * * * * *

FIRST NEW ENGLAND CAVALRY

BENJAMIN W. BREED, Company I.
See Veteran Reserve Corps.
SAMUEL B. WESTON, Company M.

* * * * * *

FIRST NEW HAMPSHIRE CAVALRY

GEORGE W. CUMMINGS, Company G.
JOHN A. CUMMINGS, Major.
See Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.
THOMAS J. LAHIFF, Company A.
HORATIO McINTIRE, Company K.
JOHN STEVENS.
See Sixth New Hampshire Infantry.
WILLIAM ORVILLE UPTON, Company A.
OLIN N. WARDWELL, Company F.
MANLY R. YARDLEY, Company K.

* * * * * *

FIRST NEW HAMPSHIRE HEAVY ARTILLERY

CLINTON J. PARKER, Company H.

* * * * * *

LAFAYETTE NEW HAMPSHIRE ARTILLERY

MARCUS M. BAILEY, Musician.

* * * * * *

TWENTY-FIFTH CONNECTICUT INFANTRY

FRANCIS WELLES, Company H.

* * * * * *

THIRTY-EIGHTH IOWA INFANTRY

GEORGE G. SCRIPTURE, Company C.

* * * * * *

FORTY-SECOND ILLINOIS INFANTRY

JOSIAH PARKER, Company K.

* * * * * *

FIFTY-EIGHTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY

ORANGE P. HARRIS, Company C.

* * * * * *

FIRST MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY

HARLAN P. WARDWELL, Company F.

* * * * * *

SECOND MASSACHUSETTS HEAVY ARTILLERY

EDWARD E. WILSON, Company H.
OWEN A. WILSON, Company H.

* * * * * *

SECOND MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

GEORGE W. BUXTON, Company A.
MALCOLM G. KITTREDGE, Company G.

* * * * * *

FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

JUSTIN D. BARKER, Company I.
JOHN NEWTON BREED, Company K.
See Thirty-second Massachusetts Infantry.

* * * * * *

THIRTEENTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

EDWIN L. DAVIS, Company D.
MINOT MELVILLE KITTREDGE, Company H.

* * * * * *

TWENTY-FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

JOSEPH N. DAY, Company G.
See Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry.

* * * * * *

TWENTY-SIXTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

THADDEUS ANGELO BARKER, Company I.

* * * * * *

THIRTY-FOURTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

JOSEPH N. DAY, Company H.
See Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry.

* * * * * *

THIRTY-FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

GEORGE T. WHITNEY, Company F.

* * * * * *

THIRTY-SIXTH MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

THADDEUS LISCOMB BARKER,
Captain, Major, Lieutenant-Colonel, Colonel.
GEORGE E. PLUMMER, Company D.

* * * * * *

SIXTY-FIRST MASSACHUSETTS INFANTRY

MILES FARWELL, Companies D and E and Staff.

* * * * * *

FIRST MISSOURI MILITIA, INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS

JUDSON PARKER, Company C.

* * * * * *

THIRTY-THIRD MISSOURI INFANTRY

JOSEPH S. PHILLIPS, Company E.

* * * * * *

FORTY-NINTH NEW YORK INFANTRY

FRANK BAKER, Company H.

* * * * * *

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH NEW YORK INFANTRY

JAMES K. P. TAYLOR, Company A.

* * * * * *

FORTY-EIGHTH OHIO INFANTRY

GEORGE L. TRAXLER, Company C.

* * * * * *

FIRST UNITED STATES SHARPSHOOTERS, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS BERDAN'S SHARPSHOOTERS

CHARLES H. NYE, Company E.

* * * * * *

FIRST VERMONT CAVALRY

HENRY D. HOLMES, Companies B and F.

* * * * * *

NINTH VERMONT INFANTRY

ANDREW J. BEAL, Company D.
GEORGE W. ROBBINS, Company A.

* * * * * *

SIXTEENTH VERMONT INFANTRY

GRANVILLE S. DERBY, Company K.

* * * * * *

VETERAN RESERVE CORPS

JOHN BAHAN.
See Fourteenth New Hampshire Infantry.
BENJAMIN W. BREED.
See First New England Cavalry.
EDWIN L. DAVIS.
See Thirteenth Massachusetts Infantry.
JOSEPH N. DAY.
See Thirty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry.

* * * * * *

REGULAR ARMY

JOSIAH RUFFLE, Fourth Artillery.
See First and Second New Hampshire Infantry.
VIRGIL I. WHEELER, Eleventh Infantry, Company B.

OFFICERS

Major-General

SIMON GOODELL GRIFFIN.

* * * * * *

Colonel

THADDEUS LISCOMB BARKER.

* * * * * *

Major

JOHN A. CUMMINGS.

* * * * * *

First Lieutenants

MILES FARWELL
JAMES W. FELT
MARQUIS L. HOLT
GEORGE W. OSGOOD
EDWIN RICHARDSON
JAMES W. RUSSELL.

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenants

GEORGE W. CUMMINGS
ORANGE P. HARRIS
CHARLES A. HOWARD
HORATIO McINTIRE.

* * * * * *

First Sergeant

SAMUEL B. WESTON.

* * * * * *

Sergeants

RUFUS ATWOOD
FRANK BAKER
DANIEL O. BEVERSTOCK
JOHN NEWTON BREED
CHARLES H. NYE
ABNER W. OSGOOD
JAMES K. P. TAYLOR.

* * * * * *

Corporals

MILAN W. ATWOOD
VARANES C. ATWOOD
ANDREW J. BEAL
GEORGE W. BUXTON
EDWIN L. DAVIS
CALVIN K. DAY
FRANK B. HARDY
JOHN Q. LANE
ALPHONSO E. OSBORN
DANIEL W. OSBORN
JOHN OSGOOD
JOHN STEVENS
ALBERT H. TAFT
JOHN STEVENS
FRANK THURSTON
LYMAN E. WARDWELL
CHARLES H. WORTH.

* * * * * *

DIED IN THE SERVICE

or before reaching home

SYLVESTER C. ABBOTT,	February 3, 1862.
MILAN W. ATWOOD,	June 15, 1865.
RUFUS ATWOOD,	January 23, 1864.
G. WASHINGTON BANCROFT,	August 9, 1863.
SILAS L. BLACK,	December 20, 1861.
ELLIOT J. BLODGETT,	May 30, 1864.
GEORGE W. BUXTON,	August 9, 1862.
GEORGE G. HARDY,	June 21, 1863.
GEORGE A. HOWARD,	July 9, 1865.
SYLVANUS J. KENNISTON,	April 28, 1864.
MALCOLM G. KITTREDGE,	May 3, 1863.
HARLAN P. KNIGHT,	December 26, 1862.
CORTIES S. OSBORN,	October 30, 1864.
ABNER W. OSGOOD,	October 10, 1862.
LUCIUS PARKER,	Septetmber 19, 1864.
JOSEPH S. PHILLIPS,	September 17, 1863.
MINOT R. PHILLIPS,	January 30, 1863.
GEORGE E. PLUMMER,	November 16, 1863.
NATHANIEL SMITH,	June 21, 1863.
JOHN STEVENS,	August 29, 1862.
EDWARD N. TAFT,	March 5, 1862.
GEORGE W. WARREN,	January 2, 1862.
VIRGIL I. WHEELER,	September 22, 1862.
GILMAN E. WHITE,	February 20, 1862.
GEORGE T. WHITNEY,	March 12, 1865.
ARA M. WILSON,	September 3, 1863.
EDWARD E. WILSON,	October 6, 1864.
OWEN A. WILSON,	October 6, 1864.
CHARLES H. WORTH,	July 2, 1863.

CASUALTIES IN BATTLE

THADDEUS ANGELO BARKER,	Wilderness, Va.
ELLIOT J. BLODGETT,	Wilderness, Va.
BENJAMIN W. BREED,	Front Royal, Va.
GEORGE W. BUXTON,	Cedar Mountain, Va.
JOSEPH N. DAY,	Winchester, Va.
SUMNER P. FISHER,	Cold Harbor, Va.
HENRY C. FLAGG,	Second Bull Run, Va.
CHARLES F. GIBSON,	Fredericksburg, Va.
HENRY D. HOLMES,	Middle Road, Va.
EDWARD B. HOLT,	Drewrys Bluff, Va.
CHARLES A. HOWARD,	Williamsburg, Va. Cold Harbor, Va.
MALCOLM G. KITTREDGE,	Chancellorsville, Va.
MINOT M. KITTREDGE,	Gettysburg, Pa.
HARLAN P. KNIGHT,	Fredericksburg, Va.
SAMUEL G. KNIGHT,	Wilderness, Va.
THOMAS J. LAHIFF,	Sycamore Church, Va.
ALPHONSO E. OSBORN,	Deep Bottom, Va.
GEORGE W. OSGOOD,	Second Bull Run, Va.
LUCIUS PARKER,	Winchester, Va.
JOSEPH S. PHILLIPS,	Helena, Ark.
GEORGE E. PLUMMER,	Cambells Station, Tenn.
EDWIN RICHARDSON,	Oak Grove, Va. Gettysburg, Pa. Petersburg, Va.
GEORGE W. ROBBINS,	Chapin's Farm, Va.
LEONARD E. ROBBINS,	Williamsburg, Va.
JOHN STEVENS,	Second Bull Run, Va.
EDWARD N. TAFT,	Williamsburg, Va.
JAMES K. P. TAYLOR,	Gettysburg, Pa. Laurel Hill, Va. Cold Harbor, Va.
SAMUEL B. WESTON,	Middleburgh, Va.
VIRGIL I. WHEELER,	Shepardstown, W. Va.
CHARLES H. WORTH,	Second Bull Run, Va. Gettysburg, Pa.
AMOS A. WYMAN,	Fredericksburg, Va.
MANLY R. YARDLEY,	White Oak Swamp, Va.

* * * * * *

PRISONERS OF WAR

FRANK BAKER
ANDREW J. BEAL
SUMNER P. FISHER
JEREMIAH F. FOSTER
(J. Frank Foster)
HENRY C. FLAGG
HENRY D. HOLMES
CHARLES A. TARBOX
LYMAN E. WARDWELL
EDWARD E. WILSON
OWEN A. WILSON.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF
SECOND NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY
ENLISTED FOR THREE YEARS

BULL RUN, Va., July 21, 1861.
SIEGE OF YORKTOWN, Va., April 11 to May 4, 1862.
WILLIAMSBURG, Va., May 5, 1862.

Note.—Here Edward N. Taft was killed and Charles A. Howard and Leonard E. Robbins were seriously wounded.

SKIRMISH AT FAIR OAKS, Va., June 23, 1862.
PEACH ORCHARD, Va., June 29, 1862.
GLENDALE, Va., June 30, 1862.
MALVERN HILL, Va., July 1 to August 5, 1862.
KETTLE RUN, Va., August 27, 1862.
SECOND BULL RUN, Va., August 29, 1862.
CHANTILLY, Va., September 1, 1862.
FREDERICKSBURG, Va., December 14, 1862.
GETTYSBURG, Pa. (Peach Orchard), July 2, 1863.

Note.—The regiment in a few hours lost 54 per cent. of those engaged. One of the killed was Charles H. Worth. Edwin Richardson was wounded. Minot M. Kittredge and James K. P. Taylor serving in other regiments, were also wounded, and Lyman E. Wardwell was taken prisoner.

WAPPING HEIGHTS, Va., July 23, 1863.
SWIFT CREEK, Va., May 9, 1864.
DREWRYS BLUFF, Va., May 16, 1864.
COLD HARBOR, Va., June 1, 9, 1864.

Note.—Here were seriously wounded Sumner P. Fisher and Charles A. Howard of the Second: James K. P. Taylor of the One Hundred and Eighth New York was also wounded.

PORT WALTHAL, Va., June 16, 1864.
PETERSBURG, Va., August 18 to September 1, 1864.
RECONNOISSANCE NEAR WILLIAMSBURG ROAD, Va., October 27, 1864.
RICHMOND, Va., occupation of, April 3, 1865.

Note.—This regiment lost by death in the service 337 men.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF THIRD NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY, ENLISTED FOR THREE YEARS

PORT ROYAL, S. C., November 7, 1861.
JAMES ISLAND, S. C., June 8-15, 1862.
SECESSIONVILLE, S. C., June 16, 1862.
PINCKNEY ISLAND, S. C., August 21, 1862.
POCOTALIGO, S. C., October 22, 1862.
MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., July 10, 1863.
FORT WAGNER, S. C., First Assault, July 11, 1863.
FORT WAGNER, S. C., Second Assault, July 18, 1863.
SIEGE OF FORT WAGNER, July 10-September 6, 1863.
SIEGE OF FORT SUMTER, S. C., Sept. 7-Feb. 29, 1864.
CHESTER STATION OR PORT WALTHAL JUNCTION, Va., May 9, 1864.
DREWRYS BLUFF, Va., May 13-16, 1864.

Note.—The gallantry of a charge made by the regiment was conspicuous. In twenty minutes it lost over 200 in killed and wounded. Among them was Edward B. Holt.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, May 18-June 2, 1864.
PETERSBURG, Va., June 9, 1864.
WIER BOTTOM CHURCH, Va., June 16, 1864.
DEEP BOTTOM, Va., August 16, 1864.
SIEGE OF PETERSBURG, Va., August 24-September 28, 1864.
NEW MARKET HEIGHTS, Va., September 29, 1864.
Near RICHMOND, Va., October 1, 1864.
NEW MARKET or LAUREL HILL, Va., October 7, 1864.
DARBYTOWN ROAD, Va., October 13-27, 1864.
FORT FISHER, N. C., January 15, 1865.
SUGAR LOAF BATTERY, N. C., February 11, 1865.
WILMINGTON, N. C., February 22, 1865.

Note.—This regiment lost by death in the service 342 men.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF SIXTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY, ENLISTED FOR THREE YEARS

CAMDEN, N. C., April 19, 1862.
SECOND BULL RUN, Va., August 29-30, 1862.

Note.—John Stevens was killed and George W. Osgood and Henry C. Flagg seriously wounded. Charles H. Worth of the Second Regiment was also wounded.

CHANTILLY, Va., September 1, 1862.
SOUTH MOUNTAIN, Md., September 14, 1862.
ANTIETAM, Md., September 17, 1862.
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Va., November 15, 1862.
FREDERICKSBURG, Va., December 13, 1862.

Note.—Harlan P. Knight and Charles F. Gibson were wounded, the former mortally. Amos A. Wyman of the Ninth Regiment was also wounded.

SIEGE OF VICKSBURG, Miss., June 14-July 4, 1863.
JACKSON, Miss., July 10-16, 1863.
WILDERNESS, Va., May 6, 1864.
SPOTTSYLVANIA, Va., May 8-20, 1864.
NORTH ANNA RIVER, Va., May 23-26, 1864.
TOTOPOTOMOY, Va., May 30-31, 1864.
BETHESDA CHURCH, Va., June 2-3, 1864.
COLD HARBOR, Va., June 4-12, 1864.
SIEGE OF PETERSBURG, Va., June 16, 1864; April 3, 1865.
MINE EXPLOSION at Assault on Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864.
WELDON RAILROAD, Va., August 20-22, 1864.
POPLAR SPRINGS CHURCH, Va., Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 1864.
HATCHERS RUN, Va., October 27, 1864.
PETERSBURG, Va., April 1-2, 1865.

Note.—This regiment served in seventeen different States and made a brilliant record, hardly exceeded by any in the service. It lost by deaths 388 men.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF NINTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY, ENLISTED FOR THREE YEARS

SOUTH MOUNTAIN, Md., September 14, 1862.
ANTIETAM, Md., September 17, 1862.
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Va., November 15, 1862.
FREDERICKSBURG, Va., December 13, 1862.

Note.—Here Amos A. Wyman was wounded; also Harlan P. Knight and Charles F. Gibson of the Sixth.

SIEGE OF VICKSBURG, Miss., June 14-July 4, 1863.
JACKSON, Miss., January 10-16, 1864.
WILDERNESS, Va., May 6-7, 1864.
SPOTTSYLVANIA, Va., May 10-18, 1864.
NORTH ANNA RIVER, Va., May 24-26, 1864.
TOTOPOTOMOY, Va., May 31-June 1, 1864.
BETHESDA CHURCH, Va., June 2-3, 1864.
COLD HARBOR, Va., June 5-12, 1864.
SIEGE OF PETERSBURG, Va., June 16, 1864-April 3, 1865.
PETERSBURG, Va., Assault at the Shand House, June 17, 1864.
MINE EXPLOSION in Assault on Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864.
WELDEN RAILROAD, Va., August 20, 21, 1864.
POPLAR SPRING CHURCH, Va., September 30-October 1, 1864.
HATCHERS RUN, Va., October 27, 1864.
PETERSBURG, Va., April 1-2, 1865.

Note.—This regiment lost by deaths in the service 386 men.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF FOURTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY, ENLISTED FOR THREE YEARS

DEEP BOTTOM, Va., July 27, 28, 1864.
Companies A, B, C, D, H, I.
WINCHESTER, Va., August 17, 1864.
Companies E, F, G, K.
HALLTOWN, Va., August 26, 1864.
BERRYVILLE, Va., September 3, 1864.
LOCKS FORD, Va., September 13, 1864.
OPEQUAM or WINCHESTER, Va., September 19, 1864.
FISHERS HILL, Va., September 22, 1864.
TOMS BROOK, Va., October 9, 1864.
STRASBURG, Va., October 13, 1864.
CEDAR CREEK, Va., October 19, 1864.

Note.—This regiment made four sea voyages, travelled fifteen thousand miles and served in seven States of the Confederacy.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF SIXTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY, ENLISTED FOR NINE MONTHS

PORT HUDSON, La., March 14, 1863.
BUTTE-A-LA ROSE, La., April 20, 1863.
SIEGE OF PORT HUDSON, La., June 3-July 9, 1863.

Note.—This regiment went from New Hampshire to the pestilential swamps of Louisiana and, before its muster out, lost over 23 per cent. by death from disease, and within a year after its enlistment about 300 men out of a total of 914 belonging. The health of all the others was seriously impaired.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS OF EIGHTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE INFANTRY

FORT STEDMAN, Va., March 25-29, 1865.
PETERSBURG, Va., April 2, 1865.
CAPTURE OF PETERSBURG, Va., April 3, 1865.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER.

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming!
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes.
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, now conceals, now discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's faint beam,
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream;
'Tis the star-spangled banner! O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is the band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave.
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven rescued land,
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must for our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust",
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY.

THE BATTLE-CRY OF FREEDOM.

Yes, we'll rally 'round the flag, boys, we'll rally once again,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom,
We will rally from the hillside, we'll gather from the plain,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom,—

CHORUS:

The Union forever, hurrah! boys, hurrah!
Down with the traitor, and up with the star,
While we rally 'round the flag, boys, rally once again,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.

We are springing to the call of our brothers gone before,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom,
And we'll fill the vacant ranks with a million freemen more,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.

CHORUS:

We will welcome to our numbers the loyal, true and brave,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom,
And altho' they may be poor, not a man shall be a slave,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.

CHORUS:

So we're springing to the call from the east and from the west,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.
And we'll hurl the rebel crew from the land we love the best,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.

CHORUS:

THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND MORE

We are coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more,
From Mississippi's winding stream
And from New England's shore;
We leave our ploughs and workshops,
Our wives and children dear,
With hearts too full for utterance,
With but a silent tear;
We dare not look behind us,
But steadfastly before;
We are coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more.

If you look across the hilltops
That meet the northern sky,
Long moving lines of rising dust
Your vision may descry;
And now the wind an instant tears
The cloudy veil aside,
And floats aloft our spangled flag
In glory and in pride;
And bayonets in the sunlight gleam,
And bands brave music pour;
We are coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more.

If you look all up our valleys, where
The growing harvests shine,
You'll see our sturdy farmer boys
Fast forming into line;
And children from their mother's knees
Are pulling at the weeds,
And learning how to reap and sow
Against their country's needs;
And a farewell group stands weeping
At every cottage door;
We are coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more.

You've called us and we're coming,
By Richmond's bloody tide,
To lay us down for freedom's sake
Our brothers' bones beside;
Or from foul treason's savage grasp
To wrench the murderous blade,
And in the face of foreign foes
Its fragments to parade.
Six hundred thousand loyal men
And true have gone before;
We are coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more.

We're coming, Father Abraham,
Strong hearts and ready hands;
From river, lake, and mountain
We are mustering our bands.
From boundless Western prairie to
The old Atlantic shore,
We're coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more.
From boundless Western prairie to
The old Atlantic shore,
We are coming, Father Abraham,
Three hundred thousand more.

James Sloane Gibbons.

TENTING ON THE OLD CAMP GROUND

We're tenting tonight on the old camp ground,
Give us a song to cheer
Our weary hearts, a song of home
And friends we love so dear.

CHORUS.

Many are the hearts that are weary tonight,
Wishing for the war to cease,
Many are the hearts that are praying for
the right,
To see the dawn of peace.
Tenting tonight, tenting tonight,
Tenting on the old camp ground.

We're tenting tonight on the old camp ground,
Thinking of days gone by,
Of the loved ones at home that gave us the hand,
And the tear that said "Good-bye!"

CHORUS.

We are tired of war on the old camp ground,
Many are dead and gone
Of the brave and true who left their homes,
Others been wounded long.

CHORUS.

We've been fighting today on the old camp ground,
Many are lying near;
Some are dead and some are dying,
Many are in tears.

CHORUS, CONCLUDING WITH

Dying tonight, dying tonight,
Dying on the old camp ground.

TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP, THE BOYS ARE MARCHING

In the prison pen I sit
Thinking, mother dear, of you
And our bright and happy home so far away;
And the tears they fill my eyes,
Spite of all that I can do,
Tho' I try to cheer my comrades, and be gay.

CHORUS.

Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching on,
O, cheer up, comrades, they will come;
And beneath the starry flag,
We shall breathe the air again,
Of the freeland in our own beloved home.

In the battle front we stood
When their fiercest charge they made,
And they swept us off a hundred men or more;
But before we reached their lines
They were beaten back dismayed,
And we heard the cry of victory o'er and o'er.

CHORUS.

So within the prison pen
We are waiting for the day
That shall come to open wide the iron door;
And the hollow eye grows bright,
And the poor heart almost gay,
As we think of seeing home and friends once more.

CHORUS.

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

CHORUS.

Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps,
His day is marching on.

CHORUS.

His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of steel;
As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal;
Let the hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel;
Since God is marching on.

CHORUS.

Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat,
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment-seat;
Oh! be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant my feet!
Our God is marching on.

CHORUS.

Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea;
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free;
While God is marching on.

CHORUS.

While God is marching on.

JULIA WARD HOWE.

AMERICA

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
    Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims pride,
From every mountain-side
    Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
    Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
    Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
    Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break—
    The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
    To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
    Great God, our King.

SAMUEL FRANCIS SMITH.

"DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI"

Inscribed to the Second New Hampshire Regiment

By Thomas Bailey Aldrich.

Published in the *New York Tribune,* June 21, 1861,
the day the regiment passed through New York on its way to the front.

The grand old earth shakes at the tread of the Norsemen,
Who meet, as of old, in defense of the true;
All hail to the stars that are set in their banner!
All hail to the red, and the white, and the blue!
As each column wheels by,
Hear their hearts battle-cry,—
It was Warrens,—*'Tis sweet for our country to die!*

Lancaster and Coos, Laconia and Concord,
Old Portsmouth and Keene send their stalwart young men;
They come from the plough, and the loom and the anvil,
From the marge of the sea, from the hilltop and glen.
As each column wheels by,
Hear their hearts battle-cry,—
It was Warrens,—*'Tis sweet for our country to die!*

The prayers of fair women, like legions of angels,
Watch over our soldiers by day and by night;
And the King of all Glory, the Chief of All Armies,
Shall love them and lead them who dare to be right!
As each column wheels by,
Hear their hearts battle-cry,—
It was Warrens,—*'Tis sweet for our country to die!*

LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

November 19, 1863.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it will never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us;—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion;—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

PROGRAM OF EXERCISES ON THE

DEDICATION OF A TABLET,

inscribed to the memory of those, born or sometime resident in Nelson, New Hampshire, who, as volunteers, answered the call to arms for the preservation of the Union, 1861–1865; celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the close of the war, under the auspices of

THE NELSON PICNIC ASSOCIATION,

at their Thirty-seventh Annual Gathering,

August 18, 1915,

at 10 A. M. in front of the Town Hall, in the village of Nelson.

MUSIC.

Keene City Band.....MR. EDWIN E. BAGLEY, Director.
Bugle Calls.....MR. FRANK B. NARAMORE.
Incidental Marching Music.....NELSON CADET FIFE AND DRUM CORPS.

USHERS.

ROBERT H. GREEN, JOHN F. PRIEST, FRANCIS STRUTHERS, GORDON F. TOLMAN,
EVERETT WILDER.

---

1. Preliminary Concert,

KEENE CITY BAND.

(*a*) March, "National Emblem".....*Bagley.*
(*b*) Grand American Fantasia.....*Arr. Bendix.*
(*c*) "To Thee O Country!".....*Eichberg.*
(*d*) National March, "Daughters of America".....*Lampe.*

2. Bugle Calls.....Mr. Naramore.

(*a*) "Reveille".

(*b*) "Assembly".

3 Welcome by Presiding Officer, Mr. William Wallace Dunn, President of The Nelson Picnic Association.

4. Prayer.....Rev. William O. Conrad.

5. Report of the Memorial Committee.....By its Chairman.

6. Unveiling of Tablet. Masters Herman Fisher, Malcolm Green, Floyd Keough, Peter Keough, Newton Tolman, and Richard Upton.

When the unveiling party are gathered in front of the tablet, the bugle call "Retreat" will be sounded, followed by the playing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by the band. It is requested that at the first note of the National Anthem gentlemen remove their hats, and the entire assembly arise and remain standing until the conclusion of the music.

7. Dedication.....Miss Edith H. Osgood, and Miss Mabel Gibson.

Miss Osgood: (depositing laurel wreath)

"Soldiers and saviours of the homes we love;
Heroes and patriots who marched away,
And who marched back, and who marched on above,
All,—All are here today."

To them we dedicate this tablet.

Miss Gibson:

"They also serve who only stand and wait"--

To the mothers, wives and children who waited long, many of them forever, for the return of those who had marched away,—to their memory too we place a wreath.

8. "War Songs of the Boys in Blue".....*Laurendeau*
Keene City Band.

9. Parade of Nelson's future saviours and defenders.

The school children will form at the school house and march successively to the Soldiers Monument and the Tablet, both of which they will decorate; then, drawn up in front of the latter they will salute the flag and join in this pledge:

"I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the Republic for which it stands. One Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."

Captain—Rufus Priest,

Standard Bearer—Alvin Davis.

Flower Maidens—Marion Bassett and Emma Brown,

Musicians—Morton Bailey, Francis Tolman, Neil Tolman and Rodger Tolman.

Masters, Clinton Bridge; Ernest Bridge; Herman Fisher; Harold Flood; Ralph Gibson; Malcolm Green; Ralph Green; Maurice Guillow; Lester Hill; Albert Jackson; Floyd Keough; Peter Keough; Edward Murdough; Ralph Page; Hubert Priest; James Priest; Theodore Priest; Cecil Ryerson; Frederick Smith; Newton Tolman; Richard Upton; George Van Brecklin; James Van Brecklin and Leslie Wilber.

Misses, Helen Brown; Lillian Flood; Mabel Gibson; Agnes Guillow; Christine Guillow; Ethelwyn Guillow; Irene Guillow; Jeanette Law; Gladys Manley; Margarite Manley; Edith Nordstrom; Mabel Osgood; Arlene Keough; Burnice Keough; Gladys Keough; Margarite Page; Helen Priest; Mary Priest; Doris Story; Doris Tolman; Helen Tolman; Esther Towne; Grace Towne; Katherine Upton; Eunice Van Brecklin; Marjorie Van Brecklin; Myra Van Brecklin and Susan Van Brecklin.

10. Presentation of Veterans. .....Chairman of Memorial Committee.

11. Response, "The Town of Nelson".....Hon. Thaddeus W. Barker.

12. Song, "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, ~~Tramp~~, the Boys are Marching on"

(Words on page 82.) Mr. Charles P. Fisher.

The assembly is requested to join in the chorus. Mr. Fisher's father, Sumner P. Fisher, was a prisoner at Belle Isle.

13. Response, "Our Surviving Veterans".....Mr. Daniel O. Beverstock, late Sergeant Beverstock, Eighteenth N. H. Infantry.

14. Song, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic".....Mr. William W. Nye.

Mr. Nye is a nephew of Charles H. Nye, Sergeant in Berdan's Sharpshooters, whose name is on the tablet.

15. Response, "New Hampshire Volunteers".....General Joab N. Patterson.

General Patterson, a graduate of Dartmouth College, Class of 1860, enlisted May 11, 1861, in the Second New Hampshire Infantry. He became first Lieutenant, June 4, 1861, and thereafter, as an officer, participated in every engagement of the Regiment throughout its history. At Gettysburg he was seriously wounded. He was promoted through various grades and on January 10, 1865, became Colonel, and dating from March 13, 1865, Brevet Brigadier General, "for courage in battle and good conduct throughout the war."

16. Description—"Cavalry Charge".....*Luders.*

KEENE CITY BAND.

17. Poem, "Our Patriots".....REV. MILLARD F. HARDY.

18 Song, "Hurrah for Old New Hampshire!".....*Chamberlain.*

MR. WILLIAM W. NYE.

19. Exhibition of the "Posterity Box".

In the wall of the building, behind the Tablet, a recess has been constructed in which, eventually, it is intended to place a sealed copper box, containing the records of Nelson soldiers, full particulars as to these dedication exercises, and such other documents, photographs, etc., as may be contributed, designed to show to posterity the nature of Nelson and her inhabitants in the year 1915.

20. Address, "The Message of America to the World Today".

REV. GEORGE L. CADY, D.D.

Of the one hundred and twenty-four, whose names are on the Tablet, over one hundred are known to have "marched on",

"On Fame's eternal camping-ground,
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards, with solemn round,
The bivouac of the dead."

While, to their peaceful repose, the bugler plays "Taps", gentlemen will please uncover, and the entire assembly stand, remaining standing till the band strikes up America.

This concludes the dedication exercises.

21. "Taps".....MR. NARAMORE.

22. "America" (Words on page 84).....By the Entire Assembly.

THE EVENING POST JOB PRINTING OFFICE
156 FULTON ST., N. Y

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
00011401715